

**Good News for Builders**  
NEWLY IMPORTED  
**SNOWCEM**  
Sole Agent & Distributor  
**Ronny International**  
\* 1, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka  
Phone: 416105, 833617  
\* 3, Municipal Shopping Complex,  
Noor Ahmed Road, Chittagong

# The Daily Star

**MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE**  
WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF  
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,  
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESHWARI GREEN,  
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE  
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.  
**NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.**  
199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA  
TEL: 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM: 861985

VOL. IV NO. 316 REGD. NO. DA 781

AGRAHAYAN 26, 1401 BS, DHAKA SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 1994 RAJAB 5, 1415 HIJRI

16 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

## Inside Today

### Article

#### Problems of Financial Sector: Woes of the Goose!

by Abdul Bayes

Page 4

### International

#### Hezbollah vow to continue anti-Israeli attacks

200 Indians die in captivity in three years

Page 5

### Business

#### Passenger bus service sector needs regulatory guidelines

Share prices fell last week

Page 6

### Education

#### Primary Education in Bangladesh: Quest for Quality; Dual Policy in the Arena of Education and its Impact

Page 16

### Prospectus

#### Prospectus on Square Pharmaceuticals Limited

Pages 9-14

### Metropolitan

#### Dhaka Day by Day



Oddities are Life's Spice

Page 3

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Shitalakha Bridge foundation stone laid

KAPASIA, Dec 9: Communications Minister Oli Ahmad today laid the foundation stone of the Shitalakha Bridge here, 60 kilometres north of the capital. The 348-metre-long and 10-metre-wide bridge on Shitalakha river is expected to be completed by June 1997 at a cost of Tk 28 crore, totally from the government's own resources, reports UNB.

### 2 die in Sunamganj accident

SUNAMGANJ, Dec 9: Two people were killed and eight others injured when a truck fell into a road side ditch on the Sunamganj-Sylhet road near Shatrumardan, 16 kilometres from here today police and hospital sources said. The dead were identified as Saleh Ahmed, 30 and Nurul Haq, 40. The injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital, reports UNB.

### One stabbed in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent  
SYLHET, Dec 9: A student of the Balaganj Degree College was stabbed by his college friend yesterday. The victim, Mizanur Rahman, a second year student had an exchange of hot words with his classmate Shahin in the college premises. At one stage, Shahin stabbed him. The victim had been admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmany Medical College Hospital.

### Saifur leaves for New York

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman left Dhaka last night for New York to attend an investment seminar on 'Bangladesh Current Economic Scenario and New Horizon for the Investment' to be held there on December 13, reports BSS.

## Cinema fire in China claims over 300 lives

BEIJING, Dec 9: A fire swept through a cinema in far northwestern China where hundreds of students were watching a variety show. More than 300 children and teachers were killed, and more than 100 were injured, authorities said today, reports AP.

The fire broke out at 7:30pm Thursday in the Friendship Theater in Kalamayi, 2,600 kilometres northwest of Beijing in Xinjiang province, the official Xinhua News Agency said in a brief report.

Most of the 300 killed were primary school students from the city, Xinhua said.

An official in the foreign affairs office in Kalamayi, who gave his name only as Sun, said the number of deaths and serious injuries was changing, indicating the death toll was likely to rise. He refused to

give an estimate.

An initial investigation showed the fire may have been caused by a short circuit, Xinhua said.

Rescuers worked through the night to try to save lives, the report said.

Officials contacted by phone in Kalamayi refused to give details, and one woman said local leaders had imposed a news blackout. But an official told CNN that 754 people were in the cinema, and that 310 were killed and 150 injured.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported most of the children who were killed were crushed in a panic to leave the building, while others died from the smoke and fumes. It said the fire began after an explosion in electrical wiring. The report did not cite any sources.

In Hong Kong, Gov. Chris Patten said he was shocked by the tragedy and expressed 'deepest condolences to the parents and friends of those children and to officials in China. Obviously our thoughts and prayers go to all those who have lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy.'

China has been plagued by a series of serious fires recently.

Last week, a fire in a dance hall in northeastern Liaoning province killed 233 people and injured 16. The recently renovated building had only a single narrow exit, and most of the victims died of smoke inhalation.

Three days later, 11 people were killed and 38 injured in hotel fire in coastal Shandong province. It took nearly 100 firefighters an hour to bring the blaze under control.

## UN convoy with food reaches Bihac

SARAJEVO, Dec 9: A UN humanitarian aid convoy reached the poorly supplied civilians of Bihac today for the first time in over two months, and Bosnian Serbs released another 67 peacekeepers from detention, reports AP.

But the United Nations demanded full freedom of movement for its personnel, warning that further restrictions could result in a humanitarian crisis. More than 200 UN soldiers, including 187 at weapons collection sites around Sarajevo, continue to be detained by the Serbs as insurance against NATO airstrikes.

A nine-truck convoy carrying 90 tons of food arrived today afternoon in Cazina, north of Bihac town in northwestern Bosnia.

Earlier on Thursday, a UN

resupply convoy for 1,200 ill-equipped Bangladeshi peacekeepers reached the Bihac area. UN officials had been making plans to withdraw 400 of the Bangladeshis. UN spokesman Paul Risley said the convoy's arrival meant there will be no imminent redeployment of the peacekeepers.

But he also acknowledged not receiving the necessary permission for the Bangladeshis to pass Serb territory.

UN officials reported today an increase in shelling around Bihac late Thursday, but said there were no changes in the front lines. A missile fired from Serb positions flew over the Bangladeshi camp at Coralic, about 25 kilometres north of Bihac town, and exploded several kilometres to the east shortly after the UN resupply convoy arrived.

## Cong heading for defeat in state polls

DEW DELHI, Dec 9: Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao's Congress party suffered losses in the first counting of ballots in the four Indian states which went to the polls to elect state legislators, reports AP.

Initial results from Karnataka in southern India showed that the Janata Dal, or People's Party, candidates were leading over their Congress candidates in 97 of the 186 seats for which trend was available. Karnataka has 212 seats.

The states of Goa, Sikkim, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh went to the polls on different dates early December and late October. The results will have no impact on the status of Rao's government in New Delhi, but it is seen as a bell weather for the 1996 general elections for the Parliament in

See Page 8 Col 3

## Head of Myanmar's exiled govt tells Daily Star Ball is now in SLORC's court

By Chapal Bashir back from Seoul

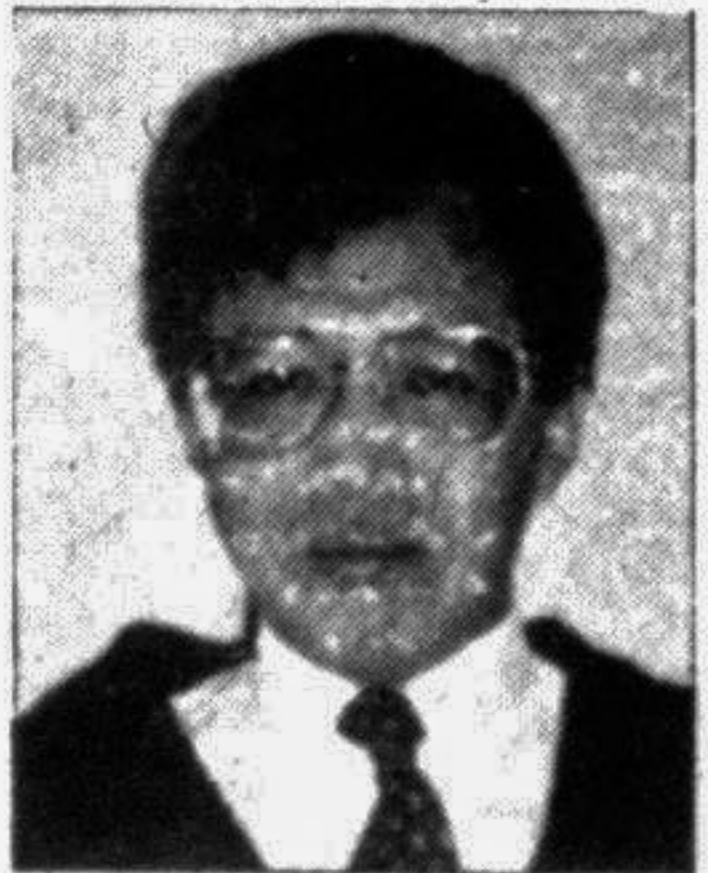
Dr Sein Win, Prime Minister of Myanmar's government-in-exile, believes that there is still scope for a peaceful solution to the ongoing conflict between the people of his country and the ruling military junta — the SLORC (State Law and Order Restoration Council).

'The ball is now in SLORC's court — our leader Aung San Suu Kyi has clearly said that she is ready to negotiate anything except her leaving Burma (Myanmar)', said Dr. Sein adding, 'the National Coalition Government, which I head, supports her position while our ethnic allies are also open to a negotiated political settlement.'

Talking to this correspondent Sunday last at Hilton Hotel in Seoul, Dr Sein focused on latest political and economic situation in his country, which is under authoritarian rule for over three decades, and explained the policy and stance of his government.

The head of the exiled government was on a visit to Seoul to attend the first conference of the Forum of Democratic Leaders in Asia-Pacific (FDL-AP) held December 1-2. The international conference, jointly hosted by former Phi-

lippine President Corazon Aquino and South Korea's prominent human rights activist Kim Dae-jung, discussed the state of democracy in Asia.



Dr Sein Win

especially the situation in Burma, now known as Myanmar.

The FDL-AP conference demanded immediate and unconditional release of Myanmar's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, restoration of democracy and formed a commission to help national reconciliation in that country through peaceful means.

The National Coalition Government was formed in De-

cember 1990 in rebel-held territory near Thai border by a core of elected MPs belonging to Suu Kyi-led National League for Democracy (NLD). The NLD won 392 of the 485 parliament seats in the general elections held in May 1990. But the SLORC refused to recognise people's verdict, cracked down on the pro-democracy forces and arrested hundreds of NLD leaders including scores of elected MPs. Aung San Suu Kyi was earlier placed under house arrest in July 1989 and still remain in-terred.

Dr Sein referred to recent meetings of the SLORC leaders with Suu Kyi which was also shown on television. He expressed doubts whether there was any dialogue in those two meetings held in September and October as no public announcement was made in this regard.

'Given the way the meetings were handled and timed, it is clear that the SLORC intended to use them to influence the US government and the United Nations General Assembly', he added.

Expressing full confidence in Suu Kyi's leadership, Dr Sein demanded that, she

See Page 8 Col 1



EVERLASTING LAST: Victoria batsman Iqbal Hossain who, for record's sake, was bowled off the last ball of the innings during yesterday's 15th Damal Summer cricket tournament final is frozen in the frame forever along with non-striker Chetan Sharma, bowler Zakir and wicketkeeper Khaled. Abahani beat Victoria by five wickets at the Dhaka Stadium. Details on Page 7.

## PM leaves for Morocco tomorrow

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will leave Dhaka for Casablanca tomorrow morning to attend the Seventh C-IC Summit due in the Moroccan city from December 13-14, reports UNB.

Kings and heads of state or government of the OIC countries are expected to work out combined action at the Summit to face the political, economic and social problems confronting the Islamic Ummah.

Begum Zia will head the Bangladesh delegation to the summit which will be preceded by a two-day Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM) beginning today.

The 32-member delegation will include Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, Farida Hasan MP and Foreign Secretary MR Osman.

At Casablanca, the Bangladesh Prime Minister is expected to seize the opportunity of meeting some heads of delegations to discuss with them matters of bilateral interest.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman is already in the Atlantic coast city of Morocco to attend the 22nd ICFM which will finalise the agenda of the summit taking

See Page 8 Col 6

## People have total faith in BNP: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said the BNP's politics and programmes were aimed at development of the country and her government has been working to that end to ensure welfare of the commonman, reports UNB.

She said the BNP faced serious difficulties when it assumed power as the autocratic regime had destroyed all the institutions through massive irregularities and corruption.

'But only in three and a half years the BNP has set an example of development in the country as it believes in politics of production and development and is committed to ensuring welfare of the people,' Begum Zia added.

The Prime Minister was addressing a gathering of some 400 people from different political parties of Nabinagar thana of Brahmanbaria district led by former Cabinet Secretary Siddiqur Rahman was joined the BNP at her Hare Road office last night. All the chairmen and members of 21 unions of Nabinagar thana also joined the BNP.

Welcoming the newcomers, Begum Zia said the people are rallying round the BNP as they know the BNP would do something for the people. 'Peace and democracy-loving people

have complete faith in the BNP,' she added.

The Prime Minister said her government believes in balanced development and sought cooperation from all in carrying out the development programmes undertaken by the government.

Without naming any political party, Begum Zia said they have no confidence in the people and the country and this is why they have no confidence in the judicial system. Election Commission and other democratic institutions.

## Human Rights Day today

By Staff Correspondent

The World Human Rights Day will be observed in the country today.

On this day in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and proclaimed the world's faith in the fundamental rights of the individual and in the dignity and worth of man.

Since then the UN stood for individual rights as well as civil and political rights just as it sought to uphold economic, social and cultural rights.

In a message on the occasion

See Page 8 Col 4

## I killed, 15 hurt as transport workers clash in N'ganj

By Staff Correspondent

At least one person was killed and 15 were injured in clashes between rival groups of transport workers in Narayanganj yesterday.

Some 200 workers of the rival groups were involved in the hour-long clashes in Hajganj areas. Pistol shots were fired and about 50 cock-tails exploded during the clashes.

Selim, a 12-year old bus worker, died on the spot when hit in the chest by a bullet. The injured were given first aid at some hospitals and clinics but fled immediately to dodge arrest, sources concerned said.

The violence erupted when a bus driver was punished under orders from the Narayanganj-based Narayan-ganj Workers' Road Transport Committee for assaulting a bus conductor.

The vehicles damaged at least 15 vehicles in Narayanganj-Jemra road. They escaped as police rushed to the spot.

Bus service in the route remained suspended till the writing of this report late last night.

## Landslide in Malaysia One more body of Bangladeshi found

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 9: Rescuers today recovered the bodies of two five people reported missing following a spate of landslides this week in Cameron Highland, 160 kilometres northeast of Kuala Lumpur, reports AP.

A police officer in charge of the Cameron Highlands district, Mohamed Nor Othman, said the bodies of a Bangladeshi and a Malaysian were found in a river.

The bodies of two other Bangladeshi immigrant workers were found on Wednesday. A 60-member search team is searching for three other missing, two Malaysians and a Bangladeshi.

## AL to continue agitation for caretaker govt

The Awami League yesterday urged the people to go ahead with the agitation for a caretaker government by observing all programmes announced by Sheikh Hasina, reports UNB.

A meeting of the Awami League Central Secretariat with acting General Secretary Abdul Jalil in the chair also protested attacks on AL workers and killing of two people in Feni during the hartal on December 7 and 8.

The ruling BNP being isolated from the people has become imbalanced and unleashed repression and terrorism killing leaders and workers of Awami League and its front organisations, a resolution of the meeting said.

It said the prime minister's irresponsible statement at the Chhatra Dal rally has pushed the country to confrontation and chaos.

The meeting demanded construction of a complete mausoleum at Rayer Bazar as a mark of respect to martyrs of 1971 Liberation War.

Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Begum Matia Chowdhury MP, Dr Mostafa Jalil Mohiuddin, Abul Hasan Chowdhury MP, Adv. Shahara Khatun, Almagir Kurnum and Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya addressed the meeting.

## AIDS in Bangladesh-I No 'full-blown' picture yet

By Masud Hasan Khan

The young Bangladeshi died with his disbelief.

Deported from a Middle East sheikdom last year, the 33-year-old man returned home with AIDS and shattered hopes for a better life.

The man from Chittagong district, whose identity cannot be revealed for privacy, did not accept till his death the fact that he had the killer virus within himself.

'So was his wife who did not like the government doctors to test her and others of the family who might have been infected.'

The victim, believed to have been infected due to blood transfusion died of malaria nine months after his return

home, doctors said.

The Bangladeshi, in the most productive years of his life, was one among many victims of a virus that gradually destroys the body's resistance against any disease. This is AIDS.

The price for his ignorance or the price of an improper system was his life. Besides, there were many who would have to suffer the consequences directly or indirectly.

AIDS, or the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, now ravaging many countries of the world, has begun to show its teeth in Bangladesh, though quite recently.

In the country, officially, there are 36 victims of HIV

which might eventually cause AIDS.

Of the 36, three died with full blown AIDS and another is still alive. The remaining 32, visibly symptom-free, are living with a time bomb inside their bodies that would end their lives with a fatal blow, any day.

These people were diagnosed HIV positive through blood tests of 60,765 men and women in the high risk zone — prostitutes, their clients, truck drivers and sailors.

According to government officials, most of those diagnosed HIV positive came from middle-class farming background, who are believed to have contracted the disease

See Page 8 Col 7

## Plot to kill Gayoom?

TRIVANDRUM, India, Dec 9: A diary kept by a Maldivian woman arrested for allegedly spying on India's space programme contained a plot to kill Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, a senior police officer said today.

The Director-General of Police in southern Kerala state, TV Ma dhusoodanan, told Reuters the diary belonged to Mariam Rasheeda, who was arrested in mid-October for allegedly buying Indian space secrets with sex and money.

Another Maldivian woman, two Indian rocket scientists and two businessmen have also been arrested in the sex, money and secrets scandal.

Ma dhusoodanan said the plot described in Rasheeda's diary involved a woman named Seetha in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu. He said

See Page 8 Col 3

**লিভার ও পরিপাকতন্ত্রের সমস্ত বিশেষ চিকিৎসাকেন্দ্রে বাংলাদেশে এই প্রথম**  
গ্যাস্ট্রোলিভার ক্লিনিক লিঃ  
আপনাকে দিচ্ছে উন্নত বিশ্বের সমমানের চিকিৎসা সেবা

- অবতেন করে বিশেষ VIDEO ENDOSCOPY, COLONOSCOPY, ERCP ইত্যাদি।
- বিনা অপারেশনে পরিপাক তন্ত্রের রক্তক্ষরণ বন্ধকরণ
- বিনা অপারেশনে পরিপাক তন্ত্রের পলিপ (POLYPS) অপসারণ
- পরিপাক তন্ত্রের যে কোন জায়গার FOREIGN BODY অপসারণ
- বান্ধনী ও পাকস্থলীর ক্যান্সারের PALLIATIVE চিকিৎসা যেমনঃ PROSTHESIS IMPLANTATION, DEBULKING
- বিনা অপারেশনে পিত্তাশীর পাথর অপসারণ ও OBSTRUCTIVE JAUNDICE-এর আধুনিক চিকিৎসা
- PANCREATITIS-এর আধুনিক চিকিৎসা
- পাইলসের LATEST চিকিৎসা যেমনঃ BANDING, INFRARED COAGULATION, BIPOLAR COAGULATION, ULTROID THERAPY
- পেট বা কটের LAPAROSCOPY-র মাধ্যমে পিত্তাশীর পাথর অপসারণ ও DIAGNOSTIC LAPAROSCOPY
- আল্ট্রাসাউন্ডের মাধ্যমে পরিপাকতন্ত্র ও লিভার রোগের বিশেষ পরীক্ষা এবং আল্ট্রাসাউন্ড এর সাহায্যে BIOPSY ও FNAC, ABSCESS অথবা CYST DRAINAGE
- COMPUTERISED CONSULTATION ক্লিনিক সমূহের মধ্যে রয়েছেঃ ডাভিস ও লিভার রোগ, পিত্তাশীর পাথর ও অন্যান্য রোগ, POST CHOLECYSTECTOMY SYNDROME, পেপটিক আলসার ও পেটবাথা, হাইলিক্স ও কোলিকালিস, রক্ত কামি ও পাকস্থলীর রক্তক্ষরণ ইত্যাদির তাত্ক্ষণিক DIAGNOSIS ও চিকিৎসা।
- অত্যধিক ল্যাবরেটরী সুবিধার মধ্যে রয়েছেঃ EARLY CANCER DETECTION, HEPATITIS VIRUS MARKER -A, B, C, D & E ইত্যাদি।

**গ্যাস্ট্রোলিভার ক্লিনিক লিঃ**  
বাড়ী নং ১৬, রোড নং ২৪, জলশান-১, কোন-১ চট্টগ্রাম-৬২১০১৬