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At the DSE Tuesday

DSE All Share Price Index	870.24664
Market Capitalisation Tk	4189045324.80
Total Trade Volume	33450000
Turnover in value Tk	12267092.50
Total Issues traded	68
Issues gained	23
Issues incurred losses	38
Issues unchanged	7

NEWS BRIEFS

President approves five more bills

President Abdur Rahman Biswas gave assent to five bills passed by the just concluded 17th session of the Jatiya Sangsad on Monday. The bills are the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1994, the Electoral Rolls (Amendment) Bill, 1994, the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1994, the Bangladesh Shishu Academy (Amendment) Bill, 1994 and the Coast Guard Bill, 1994, reports BSS.

UNICEF Children Report tomorrow

UNICEF will release its State of the World's Children Report 1995 at a press briefing tomorrow. The report deals with the recent progress in health, nutrition, education and sanitation in developing countries around the world, reports UNB.

SWAPO sweeps Namibian polls

WINDHOEK, Dec 13: Namibia's ruling SWAPO party won the country's first post-independence election with 72.72 per cent of the vote, the South African Press Association (SAPA) reported today. SAPA quoted the chairman of the electoral commission Judge Johan Strydom, as giving the figure. He said the main opposition Democratic Turnhalle Alliance obtained 20.4 per cent in the poll held last Wednesday and Thursday, reports Reuter.

Retd govt employees lottery Dec 30

Draw of the Retired Government Employees' Welfare Society Pension lottery will be held on December 30 at 9:30 am. The draw will take place at the association's Satmasjid Road office at Dhammendi, reports UNB.



Nation recalls martyred intellectuals today

By Staff Correspondent

The nation today recalls with reverence the intellectuals of the country who were killed on this day by the collaborators of the Pakistani occupation forces during the Liberation War in 1971.

Days before the victory, the collaborators, known as the 'Razakars' and 'Al-Badrs', massacred the intellectuals as part of a conspiracy to cripple the emerging nation.

Different political parties and socio-cultural organisations have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the day. The programmes include hoisting of black flags, wearing black badges, laying wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Memorial and offering *fateha* there early morning.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas in a message yesterday said that the supreme sacrifice of the intellectuals would

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some others, picked up by the 'Razakars', were never found.

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Members of Parliament gather for the first time since they were elected in general polls held on November 15.

The communist Unified Marxist-Leninist (UML) party won a plurality of 88 seats in the 205-member House of Representatives, falling 15 seats short of an outright majority.

New Prime Minister Man Mohan Adhikary, UML's leader, will need the support of either the Nepali Congress, which lost its three-year grip on power in the polls, or the Rashtra Prajatantra Party (RPP) to survive a mandatory vote of confidence, which must be held before the end of the month.

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BNP may go for by-elections if Opposition resigns

By Asluzzaman

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) would like to choose the option of by-elections to the vacant seats if the opposition members resign from the fifth parliament later this month, ruling party sources said.

The government cannot go for a fresh election unless it provides the voters with identity cards after enacting new law in parliament," a BNP leader said.

"It will take at least one year to issue ID cards to some six crore voters," the source, a senior minister on condition of anonymity told The Daily Star.

He said that even if the major opposition parties boycott the by-elections, the ruling party will have to go ahead with it to meet the constitutional obligations.

The opposition parties including the Awami League, the Jatiya Party and the Jamaat —

currently have 153 members in parliament. Two members of the Gano Forum and one from the Workers Party were still undecided about the resignation as they maintain distance from the agitating opposition parties.

The lone member from the IOJ has finally dissociated himself from the main stream opposition and yesterday issued a joint statement with WP and GF members urging both the ruling and the opposition party to settle the issue amicably.

Members of the AL, JP and the Jamaat declared that they would resign en masse on December 28 if the ruling party fails to accept the demand for a caretaker government by December 27.

The ruling party would, however, discuss the situation at a meeting of the Standing Committee after the party

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chairperson and Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia returns home from the OIC summit in Morocco.

The time and date of the meeting would be fixed later, party sources said.

BNP's official stand on the opposition ultimatum is that the party would follow the constitutional provisions if the opposition MPs resign before completing their tenure.

If the GF and WP members did not resign, it would be a plus-point for the BNP to go for the by-elections, one observer said.

The second option in the constitution after such an en masse resignation is dissolving parliament and holding fresh elections to the 300 seats.

Some ruling party leaders do not yet believe that the opposition parties would take such a disastrous move of resig-

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nation.

GROZNY, Dec 13: Helicopter gunships and jets attacked a village outside the capital of the breakaway republic of Chechnya today. Stunned villagers wandered the streets, scattering when they heard an aircraft approach, reports AP.

"They're killing innocent people!" wailed Vera Cheborayova, whose neighbour was carried away on a stretcher after being wounded by a rocket blast in the Russian helicopter assault on Pervomaiskoye. Another woman was badly wounded.

Russian officials issued their first casualty report, saying nine servicemen were killed and 14 wounded since 40,000 Russian troops poured into Chechnya over the weekend to end its move to secede from the Russian Federation. There was no comparable report on Chechen losses.

Late today, a Russian armoured column halted its advance some 50 kilometres west of the Chechen capital

Bangladeshi soldier hurt in Bihac dies

One of the five Bangladeshi soldiers injured on Monday in Bihac, succumbed to his injuries yesterday, BSS quoting ISPR said last night.

The Bangladeshi peacekeepers, including a junior commissioned officer were injured while a Bangladesh battalion (Banbat) armoured personnel carrier (APC) was fired on near the Valika Kladuska logistic base in Bihac.

The Banbat personnel injured in the incident are Risaldar Nirjon Kumar Bhoomik, lance naik Md Anisur Rahman, lance naik Md Shafiqul Islam, sepoj Md Ismail Hossain and Sowar Md. Mahbub Rahman.

All of them were immediately evacuated to hospital for proper medical treatment.

Meanwhile, arrangements are being made to bring back home the body of sepoj Md Ismail Hossain of East Bengal Regiment.

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Nepali parliament convenes today

KATHMANDU, Dec 13: Nepal's freshly elected Parliament convenes tomorrow amid furious efforts by the new minority Communist government to survive a looming vote of confidence, reports Reuter.

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