Ronny International

DHAKA FRIDAY DECEMBER 16, 1994

By Staff Correspondent

24th Victory Day today with a

renewed pledge to uphold the

independence and sovereignty

of the country and to translate

into reality the ideals and

lakhs of shaheeds of the lib-

eration war will be recalled on

the day. The nation would vow

afresh to materialise the drea-

ms of the shaheeds and as-

pirations of the people for an

exploitation-free and prosper-

cupation forces surrendered

putting an end to colonial

surrender of the occupation

forces was signed around 4 pm

at the Ramna Race Course

now the Suhrawardy Udyan in

Biswas, in a message on the

eve of the day, called upon all

to renew the pledge for stre-

ngthening the national unity

and integration to achieve the

martyrs were to build a pros-

perous Bangladesh. To trans

form their dreams into reality,

he said, "We shall have to

achieve economic self-reliance

and build up a Bangladesh free

Khaleda Zia, in a message, said

the liberation war was aimed at

establishing democracy and at-

taining socio-economic uplift.

But that struggle has not come

She underscored healthy

to an end, she added.

Prime Minister Begum

from poverty and illiteracy."

He said the dreams of the

goals of independence. ...

President Abdur Rahman

The formal instrument of

On this day in 1971, the oc-

ous Bangladesh.

the city.

The supreme sacrifice of

spirit of the liberation war.

The nation celebrates the

RAJAB 11, 1415 HIJRI

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA.

BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN, MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

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Carter asked to negotiate end to Bosnian conflict

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Business

Dhaka boosts export, yet trade balance favours Seoul

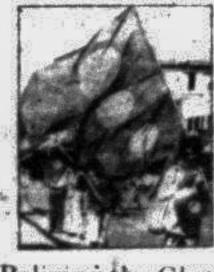
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Victory Day Special

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At the DSE Thursday

	DSE All Share Price Index		844 5500
	Market capitalisation Tk	49653815351.1	
	Turnover ip volume		7140
ļ	Turnaver in value 1k	83	12612344.6
Ñ	Total tabues traded		
H	tenses dained		
	Issues incurred toses		
9	Moves unthanged		ende Gern

Holiday Notice

The offices of The Paily Sta will remain closed on the occasion of the Victory Day today. Therefore, there will be no issue of the newspaper tomorrow (Saturday).

NEWS BRIEFS

Hony commission on V-Day

Sixteen Honorary Lieu tenants and 22 Junior Com missioned Officers have been granted Honorary Commission in the rank of Honorary Cap tain and Honorary Lieutenant respectively in the active list of the Bangladesh Army with cf fect from December 16, 1994 according to an ISPR press release in Dhaka last night reports BSS.

Film on War of Liberation

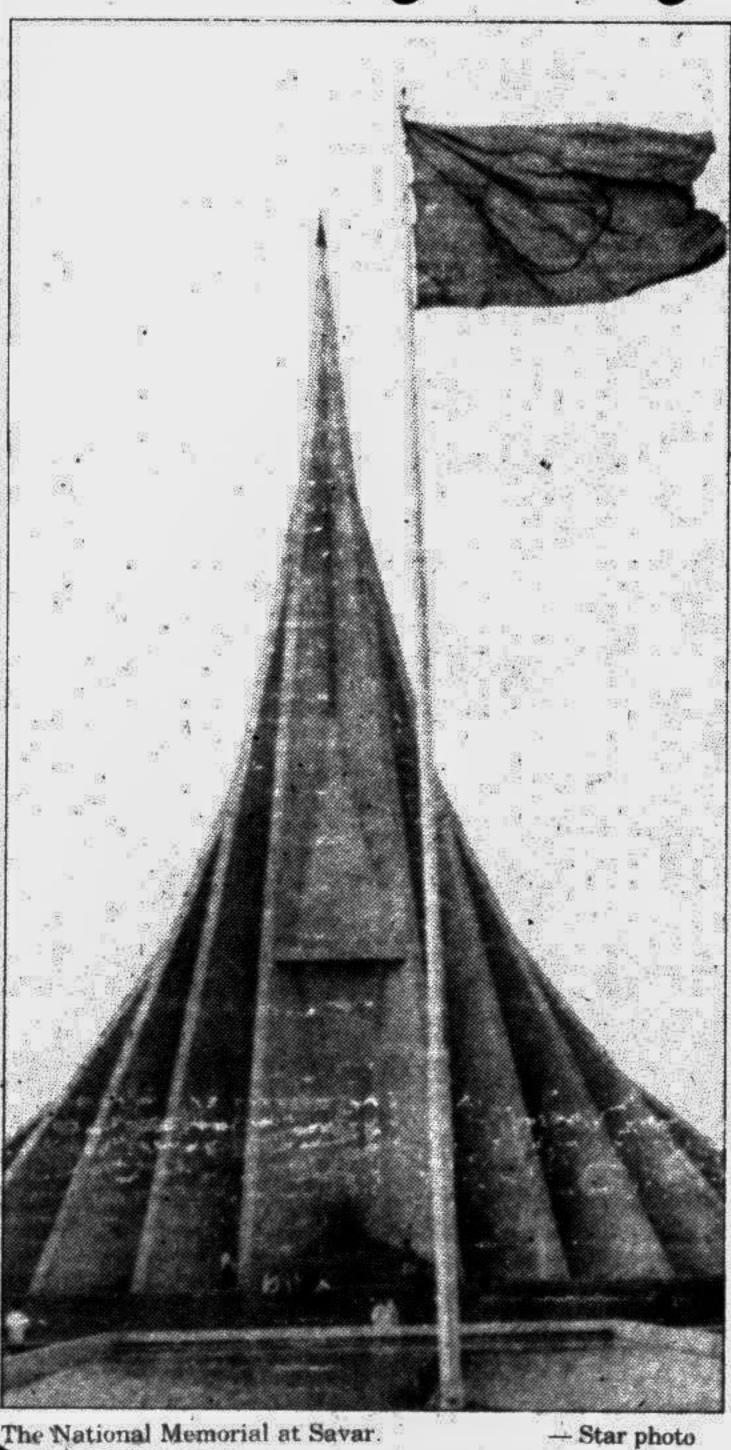
By Staff Correspondent

Aguner Parash Mont. a film wased on the Liberation War written and directed by Humayun Ahmed is scheduled to be released in city cinema halls today. The film was made with government subsidy.

96 to be released on Victory Day

The government has issued order to release 96 impris oned persons on the ocrasion of the Victory Day, reports

Victory Day today



Unicef survey on Bangladesh

Children growing shorter

due to poor nutrition

By Staff Correspondent

tinism and affects people underweight and stunted be-

The National Memorial at Savar.

Bangladesh has one of the

world's highest rates of iodine

According to a UNICEF sur-

vey, seven out of every 10

people are affected by some

State of the World's Children

1995 - said children living in

iodine deficient areas on an

average have 10 'Q points less

than those who are not jodine

While releasing the report

to the press vesterday, Resi-

dent Representative of

UNICEF in Dhaka Rolf C Car-

riere said, unlike almost every

other country, where children

grew taller than their parents.

Bangladesh today was unique

in having a population which

because of poor nutrition.

had actually grown shorter

"By international standards.

only 7 per cent of Bangladesh's

The UNICEF report — The

degree of iodine deficiency.

deficiency which causes cre-

physically and mentally

democratic practices and val ues, honesty, sincerity and determination in consolidating the democratic process to lead the nation towards economic prosperity. Leader of Opposition in

Parliament Sheikh Hasina, in See Page 8 Col

attain highest per capita income in three years'

Salman F Rahman yesterday stunned a businessmen's gathering by saying that Bangladesh could easily attain the highest per capita income in South Asia in only three years if political stability sets in, reports

"The country has all the potentials to develop excepting a congenial climate ... I want to tell the politicians that if they allow us to do business uninterruptedly, the country could achieve the highest per capita income in South Asia in three years," said the business community leader.

Expressing further opti-

Bangladesh can

The FRCCI President squarely blamed the politicians for spoiling the country's opportunity to develop fastest in the region.

mism, the President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) said stability would take the country to a development stage comparable See Page 8 Col 8



A truck-load of furniture and household effects being carted away from Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina's official residence at 29, Minto Road in the city yesterday. — Star photo

Dhaka played a constructive role: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaeda Zia said the 7th OIC summit in Morocco was highly successful as Bangladesh played a very constructive and effective role in it, reports UNB.

On her return from Casablanca last night, Begum Khaleda Zia said the summit called for a greater Islamic unity to face worldwide challenge and threat against Islam.

Bangladesh stressed the need for removing internal conflict to combat poverty and uphold the tradition of Islam.

Talking to the newsmen at the Zia International Airport, the Prime Minister said Bangladesh, at the summit, raised some important issues including adverse of Farakka on the economy. Myanmar refugees and suggested solution to the Jammu-Kashmir problem thro-See Page 8 Col 5

Casablanca summit ends

More NATO strikes on Serb positions demanded

CASABLANCA, Dec 15: Islamic leaders ending a summit here today called for more NATO airstrikes on Serb positions in Bosnia and a strength ened UN presence there, reports AFP. Besides a tough and united

stand on Bosnia, delegates said, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Summit approved for the first time a legal document aimed at curbing religious extremism.

- Around 50 other resolutions were adopted on the image of Islam, Jerusalem, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kashmir, and the Israeli-Arab peace process at the summit, which ended with

trade access to EU

a formal closing ceremony releasing a final communique. Far uq Al-Shara, the Syrian Foreign Minister earlier said

the conference had opposed

Jorda n's stand on Jerusale n Animan had sought commend ation for its role as caretaker of the holy sites in Jeru salem but the summit sided with the Palestinians who feared such a declaration could undermine their claim to the holy city.

"The conference did not agree with Jordan about the custodianship of Jerusalem. Shaira said.

"Only the Jordanian delega See Page 8 Col 4

shifted from Hasina's official residence By Staff Correspondent

Furniture being

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina who has reportedly decided to quit her official residence at 29 Minto Road yesterday shifted some furniture to the Dhanmon residence of her scientist-hy is. band Dr Wazed Ali Mia.

and some household eff ects left Minto Road for Dr Wi zed's house at Dhanmondi Ro ad No 5 yesterday afternoon. Hasina had earlier decided

A truck carrying furnif cure

not to avail of govern' ment facilities before resign ing from Parliament to press f or general election under a n' eutral and non-partisan care taker gov ernment.

Sources say sir ie could leave the house before December 28 See Page F3 Col 7

Hasin a yet to reply to Emeka's m essage

S'tar Report

Leader of the Opposition in Parliame at and Awami League chief Shieikh Hasina is yet to reply tro the message faxed to her by Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaroku Friday last regarding resumption of dialogue to end the persisting political impasse.

When contacted last night over telephone. Hasina s polit ical adviser o A M S hibria told The Daily Star that he could not prepare the draft of the reply due to his illness. He, however, said the draft

would be finalised by today (Friday) and is likely to be faxed to Etneka within a day or Following the failure of the

Commonwealth emissary Sit Ninian Stephen's mission to See Page 8 Cul 4

Newborn's death: Dhaka to enjoy preferential Probe body fails to submit report

By Staff Correspondent The probe body concerning

the tragic death of a just born baby, who reportedly died be cause of doctors' negligence of duty, failed to submit its report as was scheduled. The four-member commit

tee, headed by Joint Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Ministry M Azizur Rahman was given 48-hour to look into the incident and submit a report by noon yesterday

Azimunnessa, 35, wife of night guard Rustam Ali of Jurain, gave birth to a baby late Saturday night at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). The attending doctors declared the baby dead and sent it to the morgue issu ing a death certificate. Miraculously, the baby was found alive in the morgue around 9 in the morning next day, and was again brought to the same hospital ward where it died later

2 top Muktijoddha Trust officials

By Court Correspondent The Managing Director and

an advisor of the Bangladesh Muktijoddha Kalyan Trust (MKT) were sued yesterday for defaming a section of freedom fighters'. Khandkar Abdul Karim Ji

bon, member secretary of the Central Action Council of the MKT, filed the case with the Dhaka Magistracy against Brigadier (Retd) Mujibur Rahman and Wing Commander (Retd) Hamidullah Khan, Managing Director and an advisor of the MKT respectively. Abdul Karim in his petition

See Page 8 Col 5

4 poura polis on Jan 22

The elections in the Chandpur, Sylhet, Barisal and Shibgani pourashavas will be held on January 22 next, according to a press release of the Election Commission last night, reports BSS.

The Commission announced the scheduled of holding the elections through a gazette notification yesterday. According to the schedule.

nomination papers will have to be submitted on December 26 to the returning officers, concerned scrutiny of the nomination papers will be held on December 27 and the last date of withdrawal of nomination papers is January 2.

18 Indian ministers offer to resign

NEW DELHI, Dec 15: Eighteen ministers in the cabinet of Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao offered to resign today as Congress [1] leaders huddled to discuss the stunning rout of the ruling party in state elections reports AFP. Junior ministers made the

resignation offer after a meeting of Congress MPs to allow the 73-year-old prime mints ter to reshuffle his cabinet and give it a "new image," Congress Party sources said.

Steel Minister Santosh Mohan Dev, who made the offer on behalf of his colleagues, said their resignations should not be linked to India's financial and sugar scandals. He said their only condition was that scam-tainted ministers should be delinked from them, identified and their resignations sought separately.

India was rocked by a 1.3billion-dollar securities fraud in 1992 and, more recently, by a sugar scandal in which delayed imports caused prices to shoot up. Ministerial involvement was allege in both cases.

Civil Supplies Minister A K Anthony quit Wednesday to take "moral responsibility" for the sugar controversy, which has been blamed on "mismanagement.

New national forest policy announced

The National Forest Policy-

nounced the policy at a press conference at the ministry's The new policy, which replaced the 15-year-old policy

set of guidelines with due political emphasis and commit ment for a long-term afforestation programme. The policy spells out necessary preconditions for the de-

to meet the present-day needs in the light of the recommendations in the 20-year master

The forest policy plans to bring 20 per cent of the country's total land area under pubecological balance

lie and private afforestation by the year 2015 to maintain the The guidelines under the policy emphasise participation

the forest resources manage-It also speaks of expanding

and urban areas, in the newlyaccreted coastal land, and in the Chittagong Hills Tracts. Besides, the new forest policy calls for utilising the fallow lands around the derelict pends, along the highways.

afforestation in both the rural

rail-tracks and embankments, premises of public and private buildings including schools, madrashas and eidgahs. The policy announces that by the year 2015, 10 per cent of the forest area in the country would be brought under

conservation. Protected forests would be set up in the vulnerable areas like mountain slopes and wet lands, according to the policy.

It also recommends setting up a separate directorate for social forestry, strengthening the Forest Department and updating laws inconsistent with the development of the forest sector.

The Forest Minister also announced the Prime Minister's award for national afforestation in 1993.

Bangladesh would for sometended to Bangladesh. time continue to enjoy pre-The session was chaired by ferential trade access to the A II Mofazzal Karini, Secretary, European Community under Ministry of Commerce who the Generalised System of also led the 25-member Bang-Pietercines (GSP), reports ladesh delegation. Emiliano Fossati, Director, Directorate -· General for External Econo-It was agreed at the 12th

session of the European Union (EU) Bangladesh Joint Commission held in Dhaka Tuesday, a joint press release of the commission said vesterday.

It was further agreed that in view of the progressive reduction in tariffs and other trade barriers in world trade as a result of Uruguay Round negotiations, the current de-regulation policy and measures of the government are the best guarantee to ensure Bangladesh's long term competitiveness in the world markets.

Cooperation between the EU and Bangladesh was also agreed in order to prevent any further attempts to take undue advantages of the GSP and other trade privileges exmic Relations, European Commission led the 16-member EU delegation which included representatives from the presidency of the council (Germany), the council secretariatgeneral, the other member states and the European Commission.

UNB adds: Explaining its strategy for poverty alleviation. the government side argued that conventional approaches were not enough to deal with massive poverty in the SAARC. region. It said delivery of services through government and NGOs would be ensured in order to achieve the target of eradicating hard-core poverty by the year 2002. The need for functional au-

tonomy of the Project Imple-

gation of administrative and financial powers to project directors. The progress in EU assistance to the Bangladesh master plan for drug abuse control was discussed, and both, sides

mentation Unit (PIU's) was

discussed. Government side

agreed to review further dele-

agreed to enhance coordination in the implementation of the project. Progress in different projects under the EU compex scheme (Compensation for Export losses) for the tea and jute sectors was discussed and

ject implementation would be geared up. The Joint Commission acknowledged the results achieved so far in economic cooperation including those under the ECIP (European Community Investment Partners).

it was agreed that pace of pro-

On Science and Technology Cooperation, the EU's fourth framework programme was See Page 8 Col 8

Power sector: Tk 7300cr more needed to meet demand honorary secretary of IEB. our country is now only 83 Dhaka chapter Mesbahur Rahkilowatt per hour which is the

Dr Mosharraf Hossain said

the suppressed demand of

electricity in the country has

been increasing at the rate of

Il per cent and as a result,

"We need at least 300

megawatt every year to cater

need to invest about Taka

2400 crore every year as one

megawatt of electricity in

volves Taka eight crore for its

generation, transmission and

distribution. It is not possible

for us to provide such huge

KAFCO starts

trial production

He said there is imperative

the suppressed demand."

children can be considered

nutritionally normal. The rest.

more than 90 per cent, are

identifying and controlling

early childhood malnutrition

are ready to be launched, with

support from the World Bank.

UNICEF and other UN agen-

cies, the scale of the problem

is so large that it is not likely

that the goals for 1995 will be

progress in fighting vitamin A

deficiency and expanding im-

munisation. Until recently

100 children went blind ev-

eryday. With vitamin A sup-

plementation and promotion of

dark green leafy vegetables

which are abundantly available

in the country, the number is

in declining, according to

See Page 8 Col 7

in 1985, only two per cent

But Bangladesh has made

met immediately." he added.

"While programmes for

fore the age of two," he said

The country needs about Taka 7.300 crore in the power generation sector to meet its additional demand of 2300 megawatt of electricity by the year 2000. Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharra(Hossain said in Dhaka yesterday reports

inaugurating a seminar on Power Sector Reforms and its Effect in National Economy at the auditorium of the Engi neers institution of Bangla desh (IEB), the energy minister said. "We have to increase our firm generation capacity to over 4000 megawatt from the existing firm capacity of about 1900 megawatt." The country has, however installed production capacity of 2818 megawatt of electricity and its peak demand from 6 pm to 10 pm is about 1950 megawatt he added

With Arifur Rahman presi

dent of the IEB. Dhaka centre

in the chair, the inaugural

session was also addressed by

president of the IEB and Vice-

Chancelior of BUET Dr Shah

ahan. Chairman of the DESA

Amanul Islam Chowdhury

Chairman of REB Brig Enamul

Hug, Honorary Secretary of

Ibrahim Miah and

amount of money from our own resources, he said. The energy minister said per capita use of electricity in

> By Staff Correspondent The Karnaphuli Fertiliser

Factory (KAFCO), the 450 million US dollar multinational joint venture, started trial production yesterday. is statement issued by the

KAFCO office in the city yes-

See Page 8 Col 3

lowest in the South East Asia He informed that per capita power consumption in Sri Lanka was 196 kilowatt per hour in 1991, in India 303 kilowatt per hour (1990), in Pakistan 328 kilowatt per hour (1998) and in Thailand 758 kilowatt per hour [1990]: He said only 14 to 16 per cent people are consuming electricity in our country. Referring to the system loss

in the power sector. Dr Mosharraf Hossain said combined system loss at present is 34.82 per cent which was 42.22 per cent in 1990. "We have reduced about eight per cent system loss saving the country Taka about 160 crore every year," he said adding that the present system loss is still alarming for the country because generation, transmission and distribution system loss should not be in any way over 25 per cent.

endeavours of the private sec-

tor but not the privatisation.

The energy minister referred to the power reforms package programme of the government and said it envisages to coordinate the efforts of the public sector and the

By Staff Correspondent

1994 was announced vester-Forest and Environment Minister M Akbar Hossain an-

conference room. on forest, has come up with a

velopment of the forest sector and emphasises social and agro-forestry. The new policy was framed

plan for afforestation.

of the people, particularly the poor, in the form of sharemechanism as a key point in