

Inside Today

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Evolving Foreign Policy Perspectives

by Abul Ahsan

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Mini-insurgency exists in Karachi, admits Benazir

Lee appointed new South Korean PM

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Number of country's private car increases

New vista opens in agro-industrial sector, observed Zahir

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Supplement

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At the DSE Saturday

DSE All Price Index	843.61616
Market capitalisation Tk	4068560497.62
Turnover in volume	30602
Turnover in value	8757997.50
Total issues traded	54
Issues gained	20
Issued incurred losses	25
Issues unchanged	9

NEWS BRIEFS

Essential service period extended

The government has extended the essential service period of all categories of officers and employees of the Bangladesh Bank for another six month from December 14, according to an official handout here late Thursday night, reports BSS.

Sec 144 in Nabiganj

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Dec 17: Section 144 was imposed in the thana headquarters of Nabiganj under Habiganj district from 2:30 pm today following a clash of students and people with the transport workers. At least forty people were injured in the clash took place over a road accident in which 20 persons were injured.

Teacher's body found

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Dec 17: The body of Bishnu Prasad Acharya, an assistant teacher of the Mirpur Public High School of Jagannathpur thana under Sunamganj district was recovered from a graveyard of village Adua Thursday morning. Police sent the body to the Sunamganj Sadar Hospital for post-mortem examination. The body bore marks of injury. Police suspected it as murder. The victim hailing from Noakhali had been in the employment of the school for the last eight years.

Jatiya Krishak Samity council today

By Staff Correspondent

The two-day central council of the Jatiya Krishak Samity will be held from today in Paksey under Iswardi thana in Pabna district. Some 20 thousand workers and supporters from 600 villages, 150 unions and 100 thanas are likely to participate in the council that begins at 2 pm today, says a press release.

500 FFs join AL

More than 500 freedom fighters and prominent persons led by AKM Joynal Abdin, BP, joined the Awami League yesterday. They met Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina at her Minto Road residence and expressed allegiance to her leadership, reports UNB.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurating Victory Day rally at the National Stadium in the city Friday. — Star photo

PSCs may be placed for approval Tuesday

By Sharier Khan

Two proposed Production Sharing Contracts (PSC) with US oil company Occidental for exploring oil and gas in the Sylhet region are likely to be placed before the Cabinet Sub-Committee for Finance and Economic Affairs Tuesday for review.

Previously, these PSCs were sent to a meeting of the Sub-Committee on November 11 last but those were not discussed.

2 accords with UK during Hurd's visit likely

Bangladesh and Britain are expected to sign two agreements on financing projects in communication and energy sectors during Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's forthcoming visit to Dhaka, diplomatic sources said yesterday, reports UNB.

Douglas Hurd is due to arrive in the city January 3 on a three-day official visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman.

The visit will provide an opportunity to the two ministers to exchange views on the

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DSE transactions decline sharply

By Staff Correspondent

Trading at the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) remained dull yesterday as a bearish trend seems to have taken hold since last week.

Transactions both in volume and in value declined sharply on the day. Only 30,602 shares and debentures valued at Tk 9.3 crore were traded as against 52,788 shares worth Tk 11.1 crore during the previous week.

The DSE share price index continued to fall and stood at 843.62, declining by 0.11 per cent at the end of the day's trading yesterday. Only 54 of the 169 listed issues were traded.

In what DSE officials are terming a temporary phe-

Fanfare, fresh pledge on V-Day



Students of Bharateshwari Homes staging physical display at the National Stadium in the city Friday.

— Star photo

By Staff Correspondent

Fanfare and jubilation swept Bangladesh as the nation celebrated its 23rd Victory Day Friday.

Pledges were renewed on the day to complete the unfinished tasks of those who had made supreme sacrifice for liberating the country in 1971 and translate into reality the cherished dreams of the people of the country.

On December 16 in 1971, Bangladesh emerged as a sovereign nation on the global map, wresting independence after a nine month liberation war with Pakistan.

The Pakistani occupation forces which tried in vain to suppress the inevitable birth of the nation surrendered on this day. The instrument of surrender was signed at the Ramna race course, now known as Suharwardy Uddyan, in the city.

The programmes of the Victory Day began with a 31 gun-salute. The national flag was hoisted atop all private

and public buildings.

Apart from the government programmes, different political, social and cultural organisations observed the day holding discussions, symposia, rallies, victory fairs, cultural functions, sessions of patriotic songs and book exhibitions projecting.

In the morning, thousands of people thronged the Jatiya Smriti Soudha (national memorial) at Savar to pay their homage to the martyrs of the independence war.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas was the first to place wreath at the memorial. He stood there for sometime in solemn silence as the army band played requiem.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, accompanied by other ministers and senior party leaders, laid wreath at the Ramna race course, now known as Suharwardy Uddyan, in the city.

The Prime Minister, who is

Chairperson of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party

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Children from across the country staged a colourful rally and enthralled thousands of spectators with dance and physical displays at the Dhaka National Stadium Friday marking the nation's 24th Victory Day celebration, reports UNB.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurated the rally by hoisting the national flag as a BDR band played the national anthem. She released balloons and pigeons as fireworks exploded spreading colourful papers in the air amidst clapping and applause from the audience of the jam-packed stadium.

The Prime Minister reviewed the parade of a smartly turned out contingent of children and took salute.

Addressing the children,

Begum Zia said the Victory Day is a happy occasion for us, but our objectives will be achieved when we will be able to bring smile on the faces of all children and ensure their education.

She said the victory was achieved 23 years ago in 1971 through nine months of war in which a lot of sacrifices were made. Therefore, the Victory Day is a day of happiness and at the same time it is a day to show respect to those who laid down their lives for the independence of the country, she said.

The Prime Minister said the martyrs had dreamt of a happy, prosperous and poverty-free country which will ensure education and food for

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PM opens rally at stadium

Smiles on faces of all children our objective

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By Staff Correspondent

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali still continues his move for resumption of the Government-Opposition talks to resolve the persisting political impasse.

His efforts, however, could not yield any positive result until yesterday.

According to sources in the ruling BNP, the Speaker has already discussed his fresh move with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia after her return from Morocco and briefed her on the latest situation.

Workers Party leader Rashed Khan Menon had a meeting with the Speaker Friday when they discussed in detail the possible ways of ending the deadlock. This was Menon's second meeting with the Speaker since Wednesday.

Sources concerned said that the Speaker was also supposed to hold talks with

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Hasina may leave official residence by Dec 21

By Staff Correspondent

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina is likely to vacate her official residence at 29 Minto Road before leaving on a three-day tour of Chittagong and Feni on December 21, informed sources said.

The Awami League Chief's shifting from the Minto Road house by that date is subject to completion of renovation of her scientist husband Dr. Wazed Ali's Dhanmondi Road No. 5 residence where she would be living, they said.

The sources, however, confirmed that the AL leader would no longer live at the official residence after December 27, the deadline set by the Opposition for the government to shift.

Moni urges Khaleda, Hasina to hold talks

By Staff Correspondent

Nurul Islam Moni MP, in a statement yesterday, urged the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in parliament to sit at the negotiating table with an open mind to rid the country of the present crisis and confrontation.

Moni's membership of the BNP had been suspended recently for issuing a press statement contradicting the party line on the caretaker government issue.

Welcoming Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali's move for a fresh

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Doctor beaten up by colleague at Shishu Hospital

By DMCH Correspondent

A doctor attacked his colleague at the Shishu Hospital in the city Friday night.

Enayet Hossain, a medical officer, who was the convener of the hospital's Victory Day Celebration Committee was reportedly beaten up by an honorary doctor of the hospital and his six to seven accomplices at 9 at night.

According to witnesses, the honorary doctor wanted to participate in a Victory Day games competition but Dr Enayet, as convener, did not

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Death of newborn Probe report tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka Medical College Hospital enquiry committee set up to probe the death of a newborn, reportedly due to negligence, will submit its report to the hospital director tomorrow.

According to an enquiry committee source, although the investigation ended last Thursday, the report could not be submitted as the director is on leave till Sunday.

Azimunnessa, 35, wife of a night guard Rustam Ali at Jurain, gave birth to the baby around midnight December 10 in the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). The attending doctors declared the baby dead and sent the body to the morgue after issuing a death certificate. Miraculously, the

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Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina leading a party procession in the city to mark the Victory Day Friday.

— Star photo