

সাদা সিমেন্ট, মোজাইক, সিংক ও পাড়লু
আকর্ষণীয় ও কমমূল্যে
সাদা সিমেন্ট, জাপান, মালয়েশিয়া -
মারবেল চিপস, শাকিবান, চায়না, ভারত
কিচেন সিলিং সিংক, স্টেন, সুইজারল্যান্ড -
সোসেম, পাড়লু, ইন্দোনেশিয়া
মারবেল ও ব্রোকেন মারবেল, পাকিস্তান ও মালয়েশিয়া
ফ্যাক্টরি, মজাইক ও সাদা সিমেন্ট সম্বন্ধী সকল বিক্রয় গতিতাম
রনী ইন্টারন্যাশনাল
১৯৯৫ ইন্টারন্যাশনাল, ১৯৯৫, ১৯৯৫, ১৯৯৫, ১৯৯৫

The Daily Star

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE
WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLATO SICILIA,
BOTTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI 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. 343 REGD. NO. DA 781

POUSH 24, 1401 BS,

DHAKA SATURDAY

JANUARY 7, 1995

SHABAN 5, 1415 HIJRI

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA 5.00

Inside Today

Article

Why Can't They Withdraw Their Resignation?

by M M Sunnah

Page 4

International

India purchases enriched uranium from China

Progress in Afghan talks

Page 9

Business

Amended garments quota rules to be effective soon

29 Pak firms to take part in Dhaka Int'l Trade Fair

Page 10

Supplements

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains supplements on Dhaka International Trade Fair '95 on pages 5&8, Police Week on page 6 and Primary Education Fortnight on page 7

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Entrepreneurship OK, profit not easy

Page 2

NEWS BRIEFS

Body recovered

Police recovered the body of a man, aged about 40, from a house at Azampur Purba Para under Uttara police in the city yesterday morning. Uttara police said the body of Md Arifur Rahman of Azampur bore no marks of injuries. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Confce of hill people Jan 18

The Parbatitya Gano Parishad (Council of Hill People) Bangladesh will hold its annual national conference at Rangamati on January 16. Thousands of people from the hill districts are expected to attend the conference, reports UNB.

DUTA condemns Russia

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday strongly condemned the Russian massacre of Chechen people and demanded immediate recognition of their struggle for self-rule. In a statement, DUTA President Professor ATM Zahurul Huq and General Secretary Prof S M Imamul Huq expressed grave concern over the pogrom in Chechnya by the Russian soldiers to suppress the struggle of the Chechens.

3 Russian troops killed in clash

MOSCOW, Jan 6: Three Russian soldiers died in a clash with Islamic fighters in the central Asian republic of Tajikistan, the second such incident this week, Interfax news agency reported today. The agency, quoting military sources in the Tajik capital Dushanbe, said the soldiers were killed in the Badakhshan region on the Afghan border, where Islamic militants are based. A ceasefire has been in effect since October, reports Reuters.

Presidential palace pounded again

Paratroopers' division heads for Grozny

GROZNY, Jan 6: Russian warplanes pounded the Chechen capital again today and President Boris Yeltsin demanded that his top ministers explain why the deadly bombings continued after he pledged they would be called off, reports AP.

His remarks opening a Security Council meeting in the Kremlin came amid increasing questions about who is in charge of the troubled Chechnya offensive.

Heavy air and artillery attacks targeted downtown Grozny and Russian forces struck the presidential palace for a second straight day, the Interfax news agency reported.

The upper floors of the concrete building reportedly were ablaze after being shelled and many other buildings were on fire, creating a blanket of thick smoke over the city.

Reports from Chechnya said large numbers of paratroopers were moving towards Grozny, raising the prospect that Russia planned a major new assault on the city.

Interfax news agency reported from Ingushetia, west of Chechnya, that a division of paratroopers was on the move from their headquarters in the town of Mozdok. A division generally consists of several thousand soldiers.

The airstrikes Thursday and

Friday represented the second time bombing came immediately after Yeltsin said it would be halted because of heavy civilian casualties.

In remarks with photographers present at the start of the Security Council meeting, Yeltsin demanded to know why the bombing continued and when a new government will be in place in Chechnya.

"We must clear up why we have such an ambiguous picture whether the bombing of Grozny was stopped in accordance with my decision or whether it wasn't," Yeltsin told the dozen council members gathered at the table. "That was announced to the whole world, and Russia has learned about it, but there is information the bombing wasn't stopped."

Looking directly at Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, he said: "And I want to hear absolutely precise information from the defense minister."

Yeltsin said the council should set a date for the end of combat operations in Chechnya. He said Russia would install a new Chechen government only for a "brief transition period."

Critics have blamed key decisions in the offensive on dominant members of the Security Council — the so-called "power ministers" Grachev, Viktor Yerin of Interior and Sergei Stepashin of the Federal Counterintelligence Service, a KGB successor.

Human rights activist Yelena Bonner, visiting Washington, joined those saying the bombing raises questions about military disobedience and Yeltsin's apparent loss of direct control.



A Chechen volunteer runs under the fire of a Russian sniper in the centre of Grozny Thursday. — AFP photo



Devotees arriving at the Biswa Ijtima venue at Tongi yesterday. — Star photo

Arjun demands Rao's removal as Cong chief

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao's main rival called today for the election of a new leader in the ruling Congress (I) Party to replace the premier, reports AFP.

Arjun Singh, who quit the cabinet on December 24, also demanded a thorough investigation into former Premier Rajiv Gandhi's May 1991 assassination, saying it was still shrouded in mystery.

He said it would be desirable to have elections in the Congress as scheduled after June 1995 to pick a new president, a post now held by Rao.

"Let the party elect someone whoever they want," Arjun Singh told the foreign correspondents club here. "That person would take the party to..."

See Page 12 Col 1

DSE remained firm despite hartals

By Sohel Manzur

Despite a three-day series of eight-hour hartals enforced by the major opposition parties, the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) remained firm as it entered the first week of the new year with the main index closing at 840.51 points on Thursday.

The trading ended last year with an index of 845.65 points and it stood at 838.42 points on January 1 this year although the turnover in both volume and value was higher on the day compared with that of the last day of 1994.

At the close of trading, after a three-day break for hartal, the index picked up, but the turnover in volume and value went down with a slight increase in market capitalisation.

Some 38,517 shares worth Tk 6.17 million were traded on January 1 as against 31,845 shares worth Tk 3.94 million on the last day of trading in 1994.

The number of shares traded went down to 22,767 on Thursday last with the value slightly declining to Tk 6.00 million.

The market capitalisation of the listed companies was Tk 40.58 billion at the close of trading last week as against Tk 40.49 billion on January 1 and 40.83 on the last day of trading in 1994.

The number of issues traded on January 1 was 56, of which only four issues gained and 45 incurred losses. On Thursday, the number of issues traded was 52.

See Page 12 Col 8

Ijtima begins today

From Our Correspondent

GAZIPUR, Jan 6: The three-day Biswa Ijtima, the second largest congregation of world Muslims begins tomorrow morning at its traditional site on the eastern bank of the river Turag in Tongi.

Some 1900 devotees from 55 countries arrived at Tongi till 7:30 pm today. Devotees have also come from the distant places of the country to participate in the Ijtima.

Of the total foreign devotees, highest number of people have come from Pakistan, India and Malaysia.

Earlier Moulana Enamul Hasan, Ameer of the New Delhi based Biswa Tablig Markaz who will conduct the

See Page 12 Col 1

Dilip Kumar due Jan 22

By Staff Correspondent

Celebrated Indian film star Dilip Kumar (Yusuf Khan) and his actress wife Saira Banu will arrive in Dhaka on January 22.

A press release of the Dilip Kumar Reception Committee said, they would participate in a number of cultural functions during their week-long stay here and also have plans to meet the President and the Prime Minister.

The Ministry of Cultural Affairs will accord a reception to Dilip Kumar and Saira at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium on January 23. The reception will be followed by a cultural function.

A children's reception and river cruise have been arranged on January 24, while artistes of the Bangladesh Television will accord a reception to them on January 25.

A civic reception will be held on January 26 and the film artistes will accord reception to them on January 27.

AL programme on Bangabandhu's home-coming day

By Staff Correspondent

The Awami League has drawn up elaborate programme to observe the home-coming day of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on January 10.

The programme includes hosting of national and party flags at party offices at 6 am, assembly at Bangabandhu Bhaban and placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at 8 am and public rally at 3 pm at Bangabandhu Avenue.

Party chief Sheikh Hasina will address the public meeting.

Highway police, cadre service proposed for traffic control

Star Report

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) has put forward two proposals before the higher authorities to raise a highway police force and set up a traffic cadre service for proper enforcement of traffic laws.

BRTA sources said that the proposals made early last month was now under active consideration of the authorities concerned.

The sources pointed out that though some sort of traffic management and discipline on the roads in the metropolitan cities has been established, measures to monitor and check rough driving in long routes are yet to be taken, said a BRTA official. Lack of enforcement of traffic laws in long distance and inter-district routes caused many accidents, he said. Raising a highway police force could be a way out from this situation, he felt.

BRTA sources noted that under the present system, one policeman working in the traffic division takes training and gains experience in traffic law enforcement. But after a certain period when he is transferred from the traffic division, he has nothing to do with that. A separate traffic cadre could only reduce such wastage of time, money and expertise, said a BRTA official.

Meanwhile, under a five-year plan of computerisation, BRTA has already installed computers at its 18 zonal offices in the country and begun data entry works for vehicle registration and issuance of driving licences.

BRTA also plans to replace manual system of vehicle fitness inspection, by setting up five computerised vehicle inspection centres (VICs) in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong.

Since its very inception, BRTA is feeling the absence of analysis and data of accidents.

Police Week begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The annual Police Week begins today.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will review the police parade and take salute at 9am at the Rajarbagh Police Lines in the city.

Besides, she will address the parade and give away Bangladesh Police and President's Police medals to some of the policemen.

The highlights of the police week includes annual sports, seminar, conference on crime prevention, annual general

See Page 12 Col 7

To overcome this, BRTA has recently tagged its road safety component with a British ODA-financed project of the Roads and Highways Division. BRTA sources hoped that once the project is implemented, it would be easier for them to identify the causes of mishaps and resolve those accordingly.

Some sources said that lack of coordinated efforts by BRTA, Rajuk, Dhaka City Corporation and Dhaka Metropolitan police's traffic division is greatly responsible for the city's chaotic traffic system. Giving an instance, a BRTA official said though Rajuk has set up a model town at Uttara, its town planners forgot to leave some roadside open space for bus-stoppage. All the buses plying in that area stop in the middle of the road when passengers embark or disembark, he added.

According to an estimate of "Dhaka integrated transport study" (DITS), an UNDP-financed project of the Planning Commission, on an average 13,000 to 15,000 motor cars enter Motijheel Commercial Area per day. But car parking facilities are miserably missing there.

BRTA monitored traffic movement in an hour in the morning rush hour at the city's

See Page 12 Col 8

Dhaka urges Delhi to lift tariff, non-tariff barriers

By Staff Correspondent

CALCUTTA, Jan 6: M Moshed Khan, special envoy to Prime Minister of Bangladesh, today called upon India to lift tariff and non-tariff barriers from a list of 35 items which was submitted by Bangladesh government, reports BSS.

Khan was speaking at a press briefing at the CII media centre here.

He said, regional approach is order of the day and it can be achieved through cooperation among SAARC countries. He explained the economic reforms implemented by the present Bangladesh government. He stressed the need for reduction of the present trade

See Page 12 Col 7

Hurd's call to end Kashmir dispute thru' talks

By Staff Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Jan 6: British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd urged archenemies India and Pakistan Friday to discuss an end to their dispute over Kashmir, where a Muslim insurrection has left at least 11,000 people dead, reports AP.

Hurd, in a news conference, urged India to improve human rights in Jammu-Kashmir, and told Pakistan not to assist terrorism in the Himalayan territory.

External support for terrorism is a major obstacle to peace, he said.

See Page 12 Col 6

Int'l trade fair opens in city today

By Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF '95), the first of its kind in the country, begins this afternoon at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the fair as the chief guest at 3:30 PM. Commerce and Information Minister M Shamsul Islam will be the special guest at the inaugural function, to be chaired by FBCCI President Salman F Rahman.

Some 77 foreign firms from 19 countries and 132 local firms are participating in the two-week long fair, organised by the Ministry of Commerce.

Besides display of products, arrangements have also been made to hold investment promotion seminars and cultural functions at the fair venue — an area of 15 hectares of land.

The fair, which is expected to attract a good number of foreign buyers of Bangladeshi goods, is being organised with a Taka 3.72 crore funding from the government and another Taka 55 lakh raised through stall fees and service charges.

The fair is likely to enable the local businessmen to know about a wide range of foreign items.

The fair will remain open for members of the public from 10 am to 9 pm every working day. On Fridays, it will remain open from 3-30 PM to 9 PM.

See Page 12 Col 4

11th national art show opens

The three-week long 11th National Art Exhibition was inaugurated at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy yesterday evening, reports BSS.

Colour slides and photographs were used this year for the first time for selecting art works. In all, 227 selected works of 183 artists including 12 pieces of 12 invited painters are on display.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Jahanara Begum inaugurated the exhibition and distributed the Shilpakala Academy Award to Mansurul Karim, Arab-Bangladesh Bank Award to Mohammad Eunus, Pacific Group Gold Medal to Jamal Ahmed. Honourable mention went to Sheikh Afzal, Abubus Sattar and Mohammad Iqbal.

The inaugural function was

See Page 12 Col 8

Victim of surgeons' 'negligence' dies at Sylhet

By Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Jan 6: A patient, who underwent an emergency operation for removal of an artery forcep left inside his abdomen during an earlier operation, died at the medical college hospital here today.

Abdul Khaleque, a Middle-East returnee, was first operated upon by Dr Promode Ranjan Sinha, Resident Surgeon of the hospital on October 26.

He was released on December 4. But he soon developed abdominal pain and after complication forcing his readmission to the hospital on December 19.

An X-ray report revealed the presence of the forcep inside his abdomen, which was removed on December 23.

He remained hospitalised

See Page 12 Col 7



Visitors at the Eleventh National Art Exhibition at the Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday. — Star photo

ANNOUNCEMENT

Your favourite newspaper, The Daily Star, will enter its 5th year of publication on 14th January 1995. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the patrons, supporters, advertisers, and most of all to our readers, for making us the most popular English language newspaper in the country.

To be able to serve you better in 1995, we need your suggestions. Please tell us, in 300 to 400 words, what about our paper you find most useful, and suggest what areas we should concentrate on during 1995. Please attach a passport size photograph along with your comments, as we intend to publish a selected number of responses.

Please send us your suggestions by 11th January 1995.

The Daily Star
— Trying to serve its readers better