

A New Year's Gift to  
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### DSE MARKET

DSE price Index 622.57 (+0.26%)  
Market capital Tk 6003.32 cr  
Transactions in volume 100020  
Transactions in value Tk 1.54 cr

### Metropolitan

#### Dhaka Day by Day



It's Time to Know  
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### NEWS BRIEFS

#### 59 arms recovered

Law enforcing agencies recovered 59 arms, 91 ammunition and 1,868 explosives from different parts of the country in last 24 hours till 6 am yesterday, the 12th day of the countrywide combing operation for arms. According to Election Commission Law and Order Coordination Cell, police also arrested 543 people on various charges, including for possessing illegal firearms, during the period, reports UNB.

#### Teenaged boy crushed under wheel

From Staff  
Correspondent

SYLHET, Jan 1: A teenaged boy was crushed under the wheel of a speeding minibus on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway this afternoon. Amirul Islam, 13, a student of the Mollapara Dakhil Madrasah died on the spot after he was knocked down and crushed under the wheels of a Moulivibazar-bound vehicle near Tajpur Bazar.

#### Girl killed after rape

From Our  
Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Jan 1: A teenaged girl was raped and killed by some unidentified persons at Shalpur village of Kaliganj thana last night. The girl, Minu, 15, was abducted from her hut while her father was away. Later her body was recovered from a beel.

#### Gandhi award for Dr Nurul Islam

The M K Mahatma Gandhi Foundation, an Oslo-based international peace organisation, has nominated National Professor Dr Nurul Islam for Mahatma Gandhi Award 1995.

## Saudi Crown Prince to run state affairs

DUBAI, Jan 1: King Fahd of Saudi Arabia today handed the running of the government to his younger brother Crown Prince Abdallah, reported Reuter. AFP.

The announcement was made in a royal order. King Fahd did not abdicate.

King Fahd suffered a stroke in November last year. Crown Prince Abdallah Ibn Abdel Aziz heads the national guard and is trusted by his country's tribal and religious leaders.

"Nobody questions his piety. He is the one most accepted by the Islamic opposition," a Western diplomat said, referring to the growth of opposition groups since the US-led Gulf War to free Kuwait in 1991.

Prince Abdallah is known for leading a more traditional lifestyle. He lives discreetly," another diplomat said, adding that he meets often with the tribes and people in

general.

The 72-year-old Prince has commanded the national guard since 1962.

This militia of between 25,000 and 35,000 men drawn from Bedouin tribes is tasked with monitoring strategic sites like oilfields, and is considered the rampart of the ruling Saud family.

King Fahd, 74, left hospital after a week on December 7 but was ordered by doctors to rest. Today, he handed over power, at least temporarily, to his half-brother.

"Given our wish to take a period of rest and convalescence, and given your praiseworthy qualities, and our commitment to the public interest, we charge you with running the affairs of state during our period of rest and convalescence," King Fahd said in a decree.

Prince Abdallah is the 13th son of King Abdel Aziz, founder of the Kingdom in

1932. His mother belongs to the Shammar, a powerful Bedouin tribe which gave Abdallah military training after he was educated by Muslim clerics.

The Prince is untainted by corruption, a diplomat said, adding: "He is not among those whom people denounce" when the subject is raised.

Suffering from a stammer, he appears little in public and "does not appear to be an experienced statesman," another diplomat said.

However, he has made several official visits abroad, and represented his country at the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in Casablanca last year and at the Gulf Cooperation Council summit during the King's illness.

Prince Abdallah was named second vice president to the royal cabinet in 1975

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A temporary army camp has been set up at the Dhaka City Corporation office at Laxmibazar to recover illegal arms.

— Star photo



Visitors at the book fair at Bijoy Swarani in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

## New Year night in city 3 killed in road mishaps: 90 held, arms recovered

By Staff Correspondent

At least three persons were killed in separate road accidents in the city in the early hours of the New Year's day.

Ninety people were arrested for their alleged involvement in "unauthorised activities" during festivities in different parts of the city. Of those, 46 were from Gulshan area, police said yesterday.

Police also recovered one pistol, one revolver, 15 bullets, 66 bombs, 13 bottles of foreign liquor, 286 cans of Under-construction building collapses:

3 killed, 5 hurt

From Our Correspondent

MANIKGANJ, Jan 1: Three persons died and five others injured when the roof of an under-construction building of Monno Fabrics Ltd at Giliganj village of Sadar thana collapsed, police and witnesses said.

The dead were identified as Kalu Mia (55), Jamal (33) and another unknown person. All the dead and injured were labourers at the construction site.

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## Book fair opens Foreign houses urged to enter joint venture

The Prime Minister inaugurated a book fair in Dhaka yesterday with a call for the foreign publishers to publish scientific and technological books in Bengali and English under joint venture with local publishing houses, reports UNB.

Begum Khaleda Zia said such initiative is needed in mutual interest as it would let foreigners know Bangladesh, its repertory of knowledge while help Bangladeshi

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Sources at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) said the Munna, 18, of Joarshahara, Khilkhet, was killed when a speeding bus hit him at Mohakhali at about 2 am.

Mobarak Hossain, 30, of Rupganj, Narayanganj, was killed in a road accident at Dhamondi Road No. 7 at about 1 am.

An unidentified man aged about 35 injured in a road accident on the Biswa Road near Gulshan at about midnight Sunday night died on his way to the DMCH.

Guishan police searched a microbus near the shooting complex arrested Monir Hossain, 35, Shahidul Islam, 31 and recovered a pistol from their possession at about 1:45 am Sunday, police said.

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Electric short circuit in one of the shops caused the devastating fire at Bangabazar in the city, sources said, quoting the inquiry report of the Home Ministry.

The one-member inquiry committee, comprising a Home Ministry official, submitted its report to the Secretary of the ministry yesterday, the sources said.

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Hasina also accused the government of planting its own people in different tiers of the administration prior to voting for what she said ballot piracy.

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All scheduled examinations were however held.

## Tough law likely to ensure fair polls

By Nazmul Ashraf

The government is going for a "tough law" to ensure smooth holding of the ensuring election, according to highly placed official sources.

The law is expected to come in the form of an Ordinance by the President soon after necessary formalities are completed.

The law, proposed by the Election Commission, was endorsed at a meeting of influential ministers with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair Sunday night.

Details were not available.

The law is planned to be effective from the day of filing nomination papers and

No classes held  
at DU

By DU Correspondent

Classes were not held at the Dhaka University yesterday, the day the university reopened after a 18-day winter vacation as the teachers started a two-day work abstention demanding arrest of the killers of Nuban Ahmed, their colleague.

All scheduled examinations were however held.

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Trade fair '96  
begins today

By Staff Correspondent

The second Dhaka International Trade Fair '96 begins today at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the 19-day fair at 11:30 am while Commerce and Information Minister Shamsul Islam will be present as special guest.

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## PM at JCD rally Help protect democracy

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday sought cooperation of all in protecting the democracy achieved through protracted struggle of all sections of people, reports UNB.

Democracy is synonymous with development. Without democracy, development and progress of the country is not possible," she said.

Begum Zia was addressing as chief guest a rally of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, the student wing of her party, organised to celebrate its 17th founding anniversary.

The Prime Minister recalled the all-out cooperation of all groups, professions and strata of people during the nine-year anti-autocratic movement that brought back

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## BNP announces list of 270 nominees

The ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party yesterday announced a list of 270 nominees to contest election to the 6th parliament, reports UNB.

Names of candidates for the remaining 30 seats are expected to be announced today, one day before the scheduled last date for filing nomination papers.

According to the first list, BNP Chairperson Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will stand in four parliamentary seats in the vote, scheduled for February 7. The seats are Bogra-7, Rajshahi-2, Sirajganj-2 and Feni-1.

Giving the list of the candidates, BNP Office Secretary

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## Huda, Matin return to JP

By Staff Correspondent

Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, the former speaker of Jatiya Sangsad, has come back to the fold of Jatiya Party disolving the break away faction of the JP, namely Jatiyatabadi Jatiya Party (JJP) yesterday.

Dr Abdul Matin, the former Home Minister under the Ershad government and a member of the JJP has also returned to the JP.

A meeting about their formal joining under the JP fold was held last night the residence of the Acting Chairman of the JP Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, according to sources.

## Jamaat leaders meet President

Two senior leaders of the Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday called on President Abdur Rahman Biswas at Bangabhaban and discussed the current political crisis facing the country, reports UNB.

Political sources said Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid and Sheikh Ansar Ali had nearly 45 minutes of talks with the President in the afternoon.

During the meeting, the Jamaat leaders were learnt to have discussed if the President could take any initiative constitutionally to resolve the depending crisis.



— Star photo

## Convention of the poor in city Allocate 50 pc of development budget to remove poverty'

By Staff Correspondent

Thousands of men and women from different parts of the country gathered at the first ever NGO-organised national convention of the poor in front of the parliament building with a pledge to remove poverty from the society.

The convention adopted a declaration demanding allocation of 50 per cent of the development budget for poverty alleviation, loan and khash land for the poor and the landless, more effective laws against repression on women and dowry, organised afforestation programme, land reform and decentralization of administration.

Poverty alleviation is not only urgent for the poor but also a must for the rich in their own interest, it said drawing the attention of the government, political parties and citizens groups.

AT least one lakh people attended the convention organised by the "Trinamool Janasanagathan," a grass-root level organisation in celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Liberation War and independence.

The convention also called upon the political parties to solve the lingering political crisis.

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