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# The Daily Star

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Commits suicide

By Staff Correspondent  
A young woman committed suicide in the city on Thursday night.  
Khurshida Akter, 25, allegedly committed suicide at a residence at Kamrangirchar under Lalbagh thana on Thursday night. Her body was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy.

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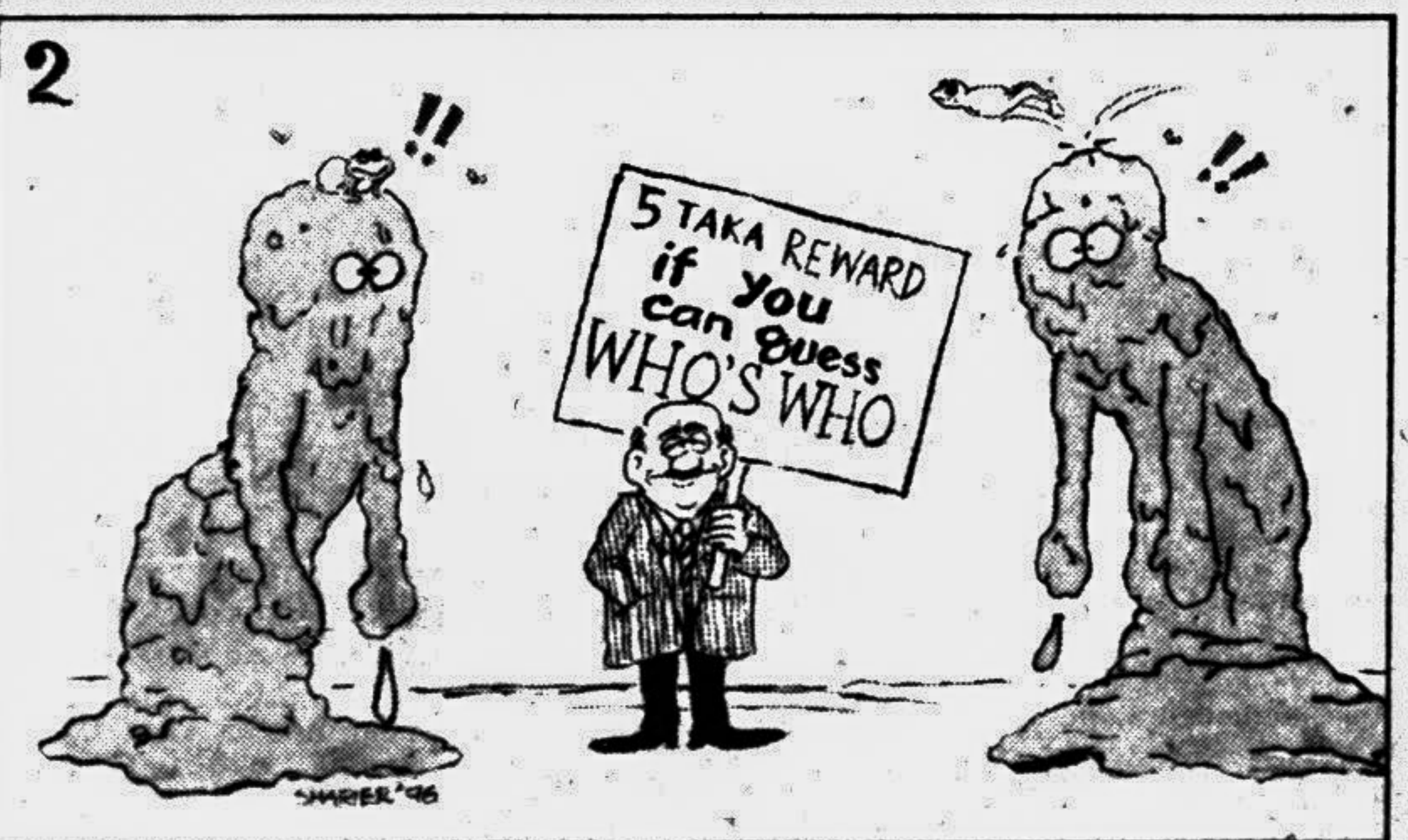
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## Irregularities in IEH Move to shelve first probe report?

By Reaz Ahmed and Mizan Ali  
No action has yet been taken on the gross irregularities in the Islamic Eye Hospital (IEH) in the city even after four and a half months of submission of an official inquiry report.  
Some influential people are pleading on behalf of the IEH authorities. It was learnt that the report, submitted to Director General of the Directorate of Health, Shamsuddin Ahmed in September last year had said, "one-man control, grouping and mismanagement had created a chaotic situation in the IEH."  
The one-man probe body headed by Prof. Ahsanullah, Director, Hospitals and Clinics, was formed by the Directorate of Health following a flurry of press reports about alleged irregularities and mismanagement in the hospital and wrong treatment including faulty cataract operations.  
Eyes of some patients were mistakenly removed and those of some others had to be removed after fungal infection due to carelessness during operation and post-operative negligence.  
"A number of patients had to suffer eye removal at the IEH following faulty cataract operation," the inquiry report had said.  
The Daily Star in its November 30 issue last year (See Page 12 col 8)

## PCJSS agrees to extend truce till Feb 15

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Jan 19: Shantibahini leaders have agreed to extend the ceasefire in Chittagong Hill Tracts until February 15, sources said.  
The ongoing truce is due to expire tomorrow.  
Earlier the Liaison Committee had proposed for extension of truce till March 31, but Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS), parent body of the Shantibahini, declined to it.  
The convenor of Liaison Committee, Hongshad Chakma, on January 12, sent a letter with the appeal to PCJSS and in response to that letter the leaders of Shantibahini on Thursday agreed to extend the truce until February 15.

## Anomaly in promotions in police service Rule on govt to show cause

By Staff Correspondent  
The Rule was issued on January 16 following a writ jointly filed by DIG Dhaka Range AYBI Siddique and DIG Head Quarters, Nurul Huda before the Division Bench comprising Justice Naimuddin Ahmed and Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim. The rule was issued upon the government through the Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs and others, said a press release issued by Barrister Amir-ul-Islam who appeared on behalf of the petitioners.  
Barrister Islam had submitted that the Defence Service (fixation of seniority in the civil post) Rules 1983, promulgated under martial law proclamation is a discriminatory law and is violative of equal opportunity in the service of the republic.  
Those rules need fresh scrutiny under constitutional dispensation, Islam had submitted.  
It was stated that ignoring a memo from the Public Service Commission (PSC) on November 15 last year for scrutiny and finalisation of a draft graduation list prepared in 1985, promotions were given to the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police, Dhaka and Chittagong to the rank of Additional Inspector General of Police on December 3.  
The HC rule asked the government why those entrants should not be declared illegal and without lawful authority.  
The petition disclosed that the petitioners, who are now serving as DIG, had joined the police service in 1970 through competitive examinations. They were superseded by 13 prematurely retired army officers in the See Page 12 Col 3

## DSE quarterly review Market capitalisation up, price index down

By Staff Correspondent  
Market capitalisation and number of share traded in the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) showed an upward trend while all share price index declined slightly during the last quarter of 1995.  
According to latest quarterly review of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), market capitalisation rose by 36.22 per cent from Tk 5436.7 crores as of September 30 to Tk 7405.30 crores as of December 31, 1995.  
During this period the average daily trading increased by 55.65 per cent from Tk 2.57 crores to Tk 4.11 crores while the share price index decreased by 0.24 per cent to 834.73 as of December 31 from 836.78 on 30th September 1995.  
The DSE listed six public companies during the quarter having a total issued capital and total market capitalisation aggregating Tk 196.60 and Tk 173.50 crores respectively.  
During the quarter the DSE listed four public companies and a mutual fund having a total issued capital and total market capitalisation aggregating Tk 19.40 and Tk 47 crores respectively.  
The Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) listed 60 public companies and mutual funds having a total issued capital and total market capitalisation aggregating Tk 1714.50 and Tk 2413.90 crores respectively.  
As many as 1.27 crores securities changed hands See Page 12 col 7

## Opposition urges President Send army back to barracks

By Staff Correspondent  
The three major opposition political parties yesterday called upon President Abdur Rahman Biswas, who is the supreme commander of the armed forces, to withdraw the armed forces and to send them back to the barracks.  
The deadline for recovery of illegal arms is over. Members of the armed forces, deployed throughout the country for this purpose, should now be withdrawn," the three parties resolved at a joint meeting, said Awami League organising secretary Mohammad Nasim.  
"We fear that there might be an attempt to involve our national army in the farcical one-party elections and its image might be at stake," he said while briefing newsmen after the meeting last night.  
The joint meeting of Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami, held at the residence of AL president member Abdus Samad Azad, lasted for one and a half hours. They will meet again tonight at the same venue.  
A fresh agitation programme will be announced tomorrow, said Nasim.  
The meeting also urged the Election Commission to refrain from holding "BNP's one-party blue-print election," and not to be a party to its bid to "kill democracy."  
It also urged all candidates in the forthcoming elections to withdraw their candidatures before January 23, the last date for withdrawal of candidature.  
Abdus Samad Azad, Tofael Ahmed and Mohammad Nasim of AL, Moudud Ahmed and Anwar Hossain Monju of JP and Ali Ahsan Mujahid, Sheikh Ansar Ali and Abdul Quader Mollah of Jamaat attended the meeting.

## Hasina says 'Results evident, so don't waste your vote'

SONARGAON, Narayan-ganj, Jan 19: Awami League president Sheikh Hasina today called upon the people not to go to the polling centres in the coming 'one-party election,' reports UNB.  
"Don't take the risk of life going to the polling centres under the BNP government," she said while addressing a memorial meeting at the Sonargaon Degree College ground in the afternoon.  
Sonargaon Thana Awami League organised the meeting in memory of Mobarak Hossain, a former MP, who died on December 18.  
"Results of the election is evident, so your vote will be wasted. You will be able to exercise your right to franchise only if the election is held under a non-party caretaker government," she said.  
Terming Begum Zia's government as incompetent, Hasina said it wants to remain in power by rigging the See Page 12 Col 4

## Study on Uruguay Round 'PSI should cover imports, exports'

By Sharier Khan and R M Titumir  
New laws should be framed in conformity with the GATT principles to broaden the use to the Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) system to ensure a fair and speedy customs procedure, says a Commerce Ministry study.  
"The present state of PSI services has led to controversies over pricing of imports," said an official of the Commerce Ministry. "As a result, the government had to ban import of some 12 items."  
The government introduced the PSI system for imports last year to "stop" evasion of customs duty by "preventing commercial fraud" to compensate inadequate customs service.  
The study also recommended that the PSI system should also be applied to exports because the PSI agencies are run and manned by professionally capable and experienced people.  
The study on the Agreement on Pre-shipment Inspection and Strategy for Bangladesh for the post GATT period, observes that the PSI system, being used by the private sector, was found to be "difficult" as it was introduced "without any clear guideline or rules."  
The study conducted under the Uruguay Round Study Project of the Ministry of Commerce identified that the Customs authorities and the PSI agencies confront each other over tariff value of imported commodities.  
The study cited customs valuation as an example of confrontation between them. See Page 12 Col 1



## Presley files for divorce from Jackson

LOS ANGELES, Jan 19: Lisa Marie Presley filed for divorce from pop star Michael Jackson on Thursday, her publicist said, reports Reuters.

Paul Bloch told Reuters the daughter of the late Rock singer Elvis Presley cited "irreconcilable differences," but he had no further details.

Presley, 28, the only child of the "king of Rock Roll," married Jackson in the Dominican republic on May 26, 1994.

Bloch said he did not know where the divorce suit was filed. Presley has two children from her previous marriage to musician Danny Keough.

## Zia's birthday observed

The 60th birth anniversary of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman was observed yesterday, reports BSS.  
Discussions on the life and contributions of Shaheed Zia in rebuilding Bangladesh and restoring multi-party democracy were held in the city and elsewhere in the country.  
Speakers at the discussions recalled the services of Shaheed Zia, who had proclaimed the independence of Bangladesh during the War of See Page 12 col 6

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