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Announcement

This week's Star Weekend Magazine says adios to the year '96 with an extended volume of 48-page. Read the sharp and dispassionate reviews on major issues that kept making headlines. Also read the chronology of events and their analysis. Star's cover story on the Man-of-the-Year Award is dedicated to those innumerable unknown and unsung heroes of our independence. THE UNKNOWN MUKTIJUDDHAS. Don't miss the collectors issue.

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Business

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95-point rise in DSE price index Pages 6, 7

DSE MARKET

DSE price index 2395.25
Market capital Tk 17320.07 cr
Transactions in volume 105677
Transactions in value Tk 455 cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 1162.30
Market capital Tk 14217.05 cr
Transactions in volume 19530
Transactions in value Tk 6594422.50

NEWS BRIEFS

PM inaugurates LGED HQs today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will formally open the newly constructed building of LGED headquarters at Agragaon in city at 10 am today. Minister for LGRD and Co-operatives Md Zillur Rahman and State Minister for LGRD and Co-operatives Al-Haj Abul Hosain will be present at the opening ceremony as special guests. Hasnat Abdul Hye, Secretary, Local Government Division will preside over the inaugural function, says a press release.

IU reopens

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Jan 1: The Islamic University (IU) reopened today after 12 days winter vacation. All the three residential halls were reopened yesterday. But the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) did not enter the halls. According to university sources, the ban on student politics on the campus may be withdrawn tomorrow after a meeting between the IU authorities and student leaders.

7 die in Indian house collapse

NEW DELHI, Jan 1: Seven people died when their house collapsed early today in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, the United News of India said. The news agency said five of those buried alive were children who died along with their parents in the state's Singodha village reports AFP.

Foreign liquor seized: one held

Police seized 24 bottles of foreign liquor and 192 cans of beer, and arrested one person in this connection from the city's Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue on Tuesday night. Acting on a tip-off, Tejgaon police arrested one Mohammad Siraj from in front of Ahmed Complex and recovered the liquor from his possession, said a DMP press release yesterday reports UNB.

Thousands gather on the banks of Padma Slight rise in water level

RAJSHAHI, Jan 1: The historic 30-year long water treaty signed on December 12 between Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart HD Deve Gowda came into effect today as the quantum of water stipulated in the agreement was released from Farakka point in India for Bangladesh, reports BSS.

level of the Padma today increased to 11.77 metre against 10.78 metre on the same day in 1996 and the water level at Harding Bridge point increased to 7.25 metre against 6.78 metre on January one in 1996.

Padma in different parts of the district to watch the flow of Ganges water. However, the curious people were not satisfied as the Padma flow was not heavy.

Our Staff Correspondent in Dhaka adds: Joint monitoring of the Ganges water began today at three points near the Farakka Barrage, according to official sources.



Bangabandhu Cup Friends, Bargh Shiraj clubs win matches

Nepal's Friends Club and Bargh Shiraj Football Club of Iran won their respective matches of the Bangabandhu Cup Silver Jubilee of Independence Football Tournament held at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.



Rival booters lock in an aerial tussle for the possession of the ball during a Group C match of the Bangabandhu Cup...

True history being revealed: Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday gave away prizes among the winners of an essay competition participated by school children on their visit to the 'Bangabandhu Museum' at Dhanmondi, reports BSS.

Children in large numbers came with their parents and sat on the lush green field of the official residence of the Prime Minister at Ganabhaban to receive the prizes from the daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The function jointly organised by Grassroot Communication and Beg Rim industries, also marked the formal...

Removal of SEC members: File submitted to PM Star Report The Finance Ministry yesterday consulted the law ministry about any legal gaps in the procedure of the planned removal of two members of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Malaysia set for crackdown on illegal foreign workers

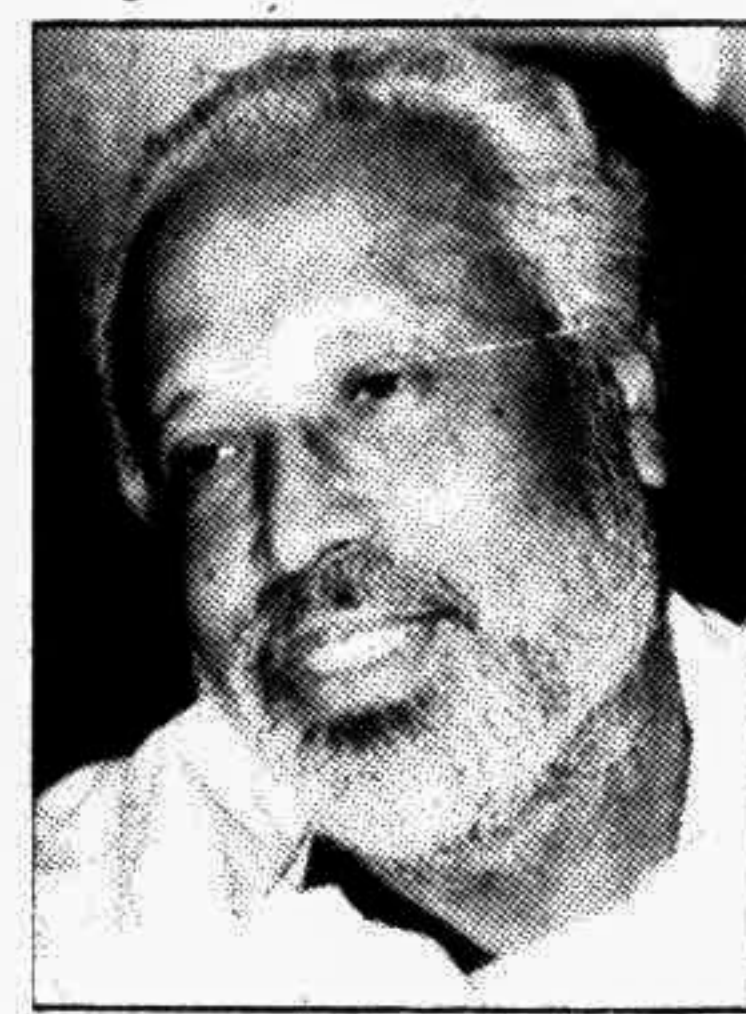
KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 1: Malaysia was today preparing to deploy 3,000 security personnel on a nationwide sweep for an estimated 1.2 million illegal immigrants, following the midnight expiry of a six-month amnesty on Tuesday, reports AFP.

The personnel, including 1,000 soldiers, will carry out door-to-door checks of homes, offices and night markets, sealing off certain parts of the Malaysia-Thailand border.

men is on standby, awaiting the order to go into action. Syed Abdul Zahid Syed Ibrahim, an official at the Department of Internal Security and Public Order, was reported saying in the New Straits Times.

High handedness of admn alleged Kader Siddiky renounces BU award in protest

Awami League MP Abdul Kader Siddiky has renounced his Liberation War gallantry award 'Bir Uttam' in protest against what he said high handedness of the administration and victimisation of freedom fighters.



me a hurdle in implementing their design. About the reported conflict between him and Abdul Mannan, MP from Tangail and former minister in the cabinet of Bangabandhu and also under Mushtaque, he said 'the conflict is political and not personal'.

1000 Bangladeshis in Malaysian detention camps

Uncertainty and the threat of deportation still stalk the fate of thousands of Bangladeshi workers staying in Malaysia without valid documents as the amnesty deadline expired on Tuesday.

Officials of the Foreign Ministry, when asked, said that they had no information about the extension of the deadline or any decision of the Malaysian government concerning the status of overseas workers staying there without valid permits.

It is learnt that nearly 1000 Bangladeshis were lodged in different Malaysian detention...

Sea coaster with fertilizer sinks in Karnaphuli From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Jan 1: A sea coaster sank in the Karnaphuli river after a head-on collision with a ship last night, port sources said.

Trade, water issues to dominate Hasina-Deve Gowda talks

Trade expansion and water resources development will be among the major issues to figure prominently at talks during the two-day state visit of Indian Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda who arrives on January 6.

the Indian Prime Minister at the Zia International Airport when he arrives by a special aircraft. Bangladesh Air Force jets will escort the special plane after it enters the country's airspace.

emphasis on expanding of trade links between the two neighbours. Talks on ways and means of reducing the huge trade deficit with India will figure prominently. The Bangladesh side will also seek early repatriation of the Chakma refugees. Other outstanding bilateral issues including 'facilitation of trading measures, boundary demarcation and security matters and regional and international issues of common concern will also be discussed.

Tougher programme after Ramadan: B Chy

BNP senior Vice-Chairman and Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Dr AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday issued a warning to the government to stop 'conspiracy against democracy and independence and sovereignty of the country or to face a movement'.

the function. This was her first appearance in any public meeting after her return from Saudi Arabia. She is recovering from a knee operation. Some 50 leaders of BNP and its front organisations addressed the big rally that stretched upto Paltan crossing and continued for long seven hours starting at two in the afternoon. The speakers included BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Moudud Ahmed, Nazmul Huda and leaders of the city unit of BNP, Jubo Dal, JCD and JASAS. The rally was chaired by JCD president Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anney.

Tk 3.15 lakh snatched in city

Muggers snatched Tk 3.15 lakh from a businessman in Motijheel commercial area in the city yesterday. According to police, a gang of four muggers outwitted FM Monirul Islam, owner of Sohrab Vegetable Oil Mills, by scattering some currency notes on the road near the Janata Bank Corporate branch at about 12.45 pm. They told Islam, who was in a car, that some of his money had fallen from his vehicle.

Regional meet in Apr in quest of FDI, relocation of industries

A regional conference of boards of investment of the countries of Asia and the Pacific will be held in Dhaka in April this year to explore scope for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and relocation of industries, according to sources in the Board of Investment (BOI).

Indonesia South Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippine, Thailand and Vietnam. The conference, the first of its kind in Bangladesh is being sponsored jointly by the BOI and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP).

The prime objective of the conference is to establish a regional network of boards of investment to promote FDI and relocation of industries in the region through exchange of ideas, information and other collaborative activities, the sources said.

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