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War veterans
see great
prospect of
Bangladesh

PM hosts reception to 29
Indian, 5 Russian friends
of Liberation War

UNB, Dhaka

Indian and Russian war
veterans, who fought for
liberating Bangladesh from
Pakistan in 1971, yesterday
expressed their firm conviction
that Bangladesh will
make great progress in the
near future to be a great
country in the global arena.

They highly appreciated
massive transformation of
Bangladesh in various areas
and wished every success of
the country and its people.

The war veterans were
addressing a reception
accorded to them by Prime
Minister Sheikh Hasina at
the Gono Bhaban in the
evening.

Twenty-nine war veterans
from India and five
from Russia and their
spouses are now in the city
to join the celebrations of
the 46th Victory Day of
Bangladesh.

Leader of the Indian
delegation Lt Gen (retd) GS
Sihota and leader of
Russian delegation
Kozhurin Victor, war veterans
of India Brig (retd)
Bhanot Madan Mohan, Air
Commodore (retd)
Chandra Mohan Singla and
Vice Admiral (retd) Raman
Prem Suthan spoke on the
occasion.

Kozhurin Victor, who
took part in sweeping
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They came and
shouted: move
from here

Santal woman Chumki Mardi recalls
November 6 torching of her house

PINAKI ROY from Gaibandha

The house being set afire by a policeman
and a person in a pink shirt as seen in an Al
Jazeera video belonged to Chumki Mardi,
a 55-year-old Santal woman.

The incident took place on November 6
afternoon during a drive to evict Santals
from the disputed land of Sahebganj-Bagda
sugarcane farm in Gobindaganj of
Gaibandha.

"They came and shouted: move from
here," Chumki told this correspondent
while showing the location of the house

yesterday morning. It was the first shanty in
a row of about 50.

"I ran away as I got very scared," she said.
"They first torched my home and later
other Santal houses."

Many other Santals echoed Chumki's
statement.

At least 2,500 shanties of Bangalees and
Santals were razed during the eviction
drive on November 6.

The next day, the Rangpur Sugar Mills
authorities ploughed the land to grow
sugarcane. Nobody would believe that

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Chumki Mardi sitting on a plot of land where she had her home. The photo was taken in Gaibandha's Gobindaganj yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Bangla



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OUR ENERGY

16th
DECEMBER
160 MILLION PEOPLE

The Celebration of Victory Day

SHABASH BANGLADESH
by Nitun Kundu
Commemorates the
Bangladesh Liberation War

BANGLA TRAC

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