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SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT ON VICTORY DAY

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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



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The Celebration of Victory Day

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