**Parliament's joyful ovation for Mrs Gandhi**

*From Kuldip Nayar*

**Delhi, Dec 16**

Pakistan forces in East Bengal surrendered today at 11.01 GMT and three hours later India declared a unilateral cease-fire in West Pakistan. It was a day of many dramatic happenings. First, there was no response until the eleventh hour from the Pakistan military command in the East to the cease-fire request made by India's Chief of Army Staff, General Manekshaw.

Then came a request from the Pakistan commander in East Bengal, Lieutenant-General A. A. K. Niazi for a six-hour extension to India's pause in bombing which started at 11.00 GMT on Wednesday. Finally came the surrender to Lieutenant-General J. S. Aurora, commander of Indian forces and the Mukti Bahini (the Bangla Desh fighters) in the East, who flew by helicopter to Dacca with his counterparts in the Indian Navy and Air Force.

On top of all this came India's unilateral declaration of a cease-fire, which was decided at a hurriedly convened Cabinet meeting, and conveyed to a joint meeting of the two Houses of the Indian Parliament.

Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, who broke the news to Parliament first of the surrender of the Pakistan forces in East Bengal and commander of a unilateral cease-fire, was given a hero's ovation such as has never been seen in the two Houses before. Members from all parties stood up to acclaim "Indira Gandhi [Long live Mrs Gandhi]."

A nation which had felt concerned for the past two days over the future of the former Soviet satellite states Seventh Fleet into the Bay of Bengal not only felt relieved but almost appeared drunk with the heady wine of victory.

**The day when the shooting stopped**

*From Henry Stanhope*

**Defence Correspondent**

Khulna, East Pakistan, Dec 16

Indian and Pakistani soldiers are starting to sign across 300 yards of no-man's-land here tonight, waiting for the word which will enable them to take down the flags of the longest and stiffest stage of the 13-day war in East Pakistan.

Only a few miles from here, where there is an Indian-Pakistan border, people are dancing and singing on the streets.

**Pakistan; general, near to tears, signs at racecourse ceremony**

*From Peter O'Loughlin*

**Dacca, Dec 16**

Shooting still sounded in the background as, in fading light, crowds surrounded a table set up in front of Dacca racecourse and Lieutenant-General A. A. K. Niazi, looking grim, signed the terms of surrender.

Hundreds of Bengalis shouting "Zindabad [Long live]" were kept back by Indian troops who cordoned off the racecourse. General Niazi was near tears as he moved away, surrounded by local people. When word was passed to him from Pakistani headquarters that it had agreed to a cease-fire, General Niazi at about 10 am.

Colonel Pannu, commander of the 2nd Para Commando Regiment, said General Niazi was "full of tears. We talked soldier to soldier and swapped dirty jokes.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. P. Hikhye, an Indian officer who witnessed the surrender ceremony, said that contingents of Pakistani and Indian troops were drawn near by as the deal wasisia's

**Camera in motor safety**

*A series of pictures on motorways around the Country, the most experimental's