

CANDIDATE'S INFO DISCLOSURE

SC dumps its own surprise order after courtroom chaos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) in an unprecedented move yesterday recalled within three hours its verdict against collecting eight-point personal details of a parliamentary candidate amidst stubborn opposition from lawyers.

A four-member SC Bench headed by Chief Justice Syed JR

Mudassir Husain gave the verdict, overruling a High Court judgement to allow candidates not to submit personal and wealth statements to the Election Commission (EC).

The SC had earlier fixed yesterday for its judgement on the appeal of one Abu Safa who had filed it to overturn the HC verdict given on May 24 in 2005.

Disposing of a writ petition filed

by three lawyers, the HC had asked the EC to gather personal details like academic qualification, profession, source of income, criminal records and some other information about aspirants for contesting parliamentary polls and publish those to help voters choose their representatives properly.

Surprisingly, a single-member

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Only two submit wealth statement as deadline nears

Mamun's brother claims to ACC he has only Tk 10,000 furniture, his gold costs Tk 1,000 a bhoori

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

Since the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) had published the list of 50 corruption suspects on Sunday, giving them 72 hours for submitting their wealth statements, only two former lawmakers of Jamaat and BNP made their submissions in person.

However, after submitting his statement, former Jamaat lawmaker Shahjahan Chowdhury literally fled from the ACC premises when he came across journalists.

Fearing arrest, another corruption suspect Hafiz Ibrahim former BNP parliamentarian and brother of Giasuddin Al Mamun sent his

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Nation salutes heroes of Amar Ekushey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the clock striking a minute past midnight, thousands of people barefoot and singing paid homage to supreme sacrifice of the Language Movement martyrs on this very day of 1952 in Dhaka.

President Iajuddin Ahmed led the nation in paying tributes by placing a wreath at the Central Shaheed Minar, the venue for centrepiece February 21 observance, at 12:01am today, followed by Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, who paused in solemn silence.

Next came Speaker Jamir Uddin Sircar, Deputy Speaker Akhter Hamid Siddique, Dhaka City Corporation Mayor Sadeque

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People won't accept extra-constitutional government: Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday said people would not accept any extra-constitutional government and it would not be logical to delay the holding of the next elections in the name of preparing national ID cards.

"People want elections as early as possible. They want a constitutional government in the country. They do not want extra-constitutional government and they will not allow it," she said.

Hasina was addressing a discus-

sion organised by the AL at the Institution of Engineers Bangladesh auditorium in the city marking the Amar Ekushey today.

"We want the voter list prepared with photographs. It will take a lot of time to make voter or national ID cards. The ID cards can be prepared later. We wanted the ID cards and we still want it," she said, adding that people want to practise their voting rights and an elected government.

Hasina suggested that the voter ID cards could be made in the six divisional headquarters as a pilot

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PDB sticks to Harbin Seeks to up 'low cost' Chandpur power project by \$16m

SHARIF KHAN

The Power Development Board (PDB) that ignored a government review panel's decision and awarded the contract for Chandpur 150 megawatt power project to blacklisted Chinese company Harbin on the plea of "low cost" now seeks to increase the project's budget by more than \$16million.

The PDB on January 25 prepared a Revised Development Project Proposal (RDPP) on this project and has already obtained pre-Ecne (Executive Committee of National Economic Council) clearance. It will soon be placed before the Ecne for final clear-

ance.

The RDPP shows the fresh estimated cost of the 100 MW gas turbine part of the project at around Tk 442 crore or \$ 61.57 million. The cost quoted by Harbin for the same was around Tk 288 crore or \$45.20million.

This is a shocking contrast to the PDB's own argument for awarding contract for this project to Harbin on the plea of a low cost offer and overturning a review panel's decision that Harbin's bid was grossly invalid.

Blacklisted last year by the Eastern Refinery Ltd (ERL) for failing to install a small power unit, Harbin is known for its gross bid

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President Iajuddin Ahmed, left, and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed stand in silence after laying floral wreaths on the altar of the Central Shaheed Minar in the capital early today.

Rejoinder

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday sent a rejoinder to a story headlined "Ex-private secretary spills graft beans about Khaleda". The Daily Star translated the interview of AHM Nurul Islam that was published in the daily Prothom Alo on Monday.

Mannan Bhuiyan in his rejoinder said:

The daily Prothom Alo in its

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NOTICE

The Daily Star observes holiday today on account of the Shaheed Day and International Mother Language Day. However, the newspaper will come out tomorrow (February 22) under special arrangements. Today's issue includes a 12-page supplement to mark the observance of February 21.

Dulu surrenders, sent to jail

2,500 acres of illegally occupied land recovered in Noakhali; relief goods seized from Wadud Bhuiyan's house

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent BNP leader and former deputy minister for land Ruhul Quddus Talukder Dulu to jail after he surrendered before it seeking safe custody.

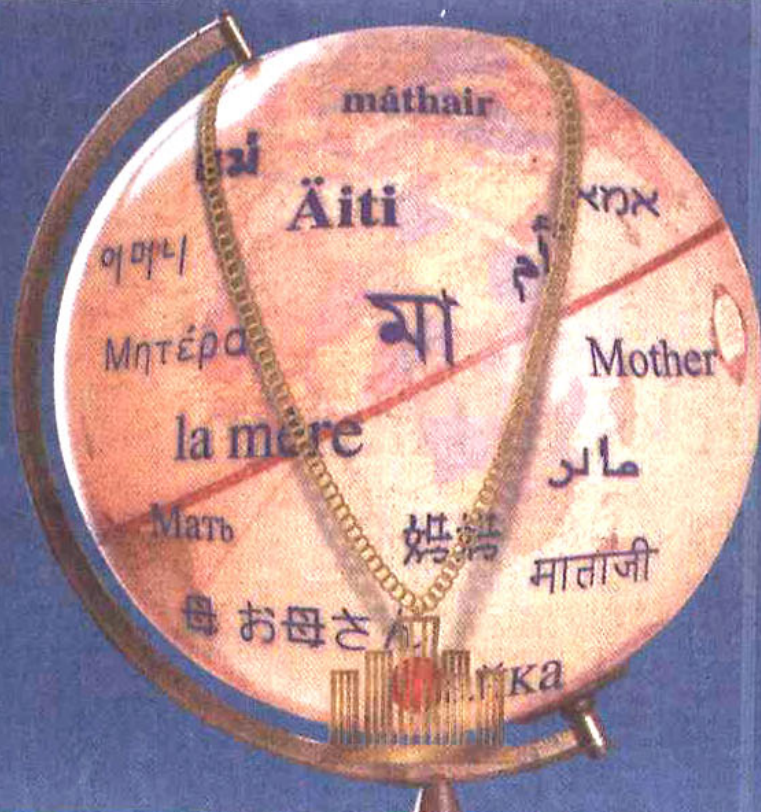
In Noakhali, the joint forces recovered around 2,500 acres of khas land (government land) in Subarnachar upazila allegedly occupied by Barkat Ullah Bulu, adviser for commerce during the

BNP-led alliance rule and few other businessmen.

Meanwhile, a special taskforce seized about 3,000 jackets meant for distributing as relief from the house of former BNP lawmaker Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan in Khagrachhari yesterday, reports our correspondent from there.

Besides, the joint forces arrested 1,621 people on various charges and seized 13 firearms and 10

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একুশ আনাদের অহংকার
সারা বিশ্বের অলংকার

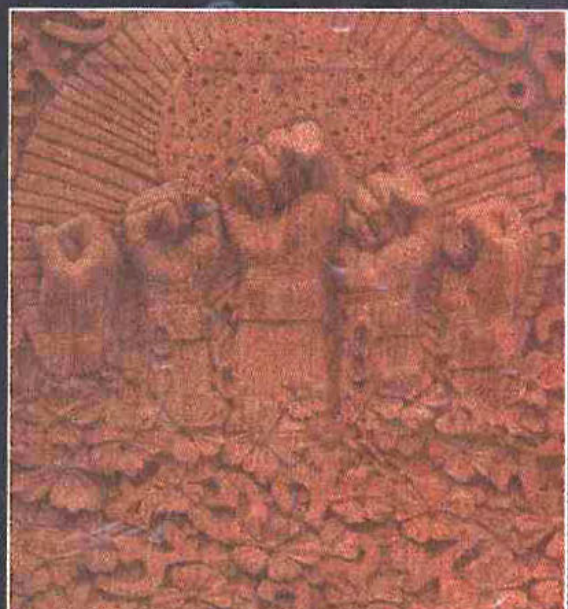
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The Caring Bank

BANK ALFALAH LIMITED



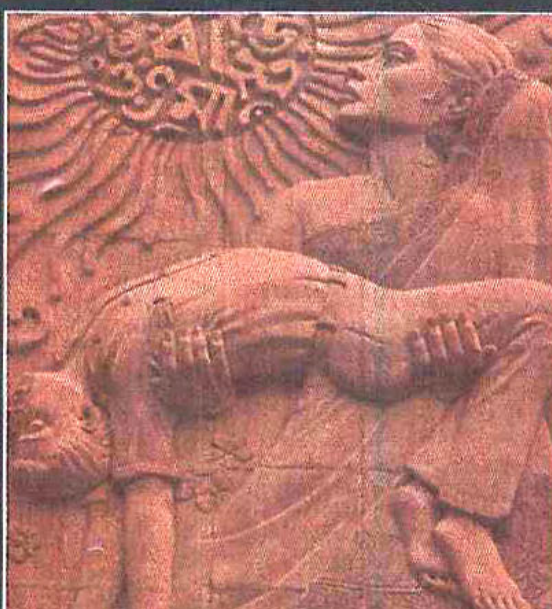
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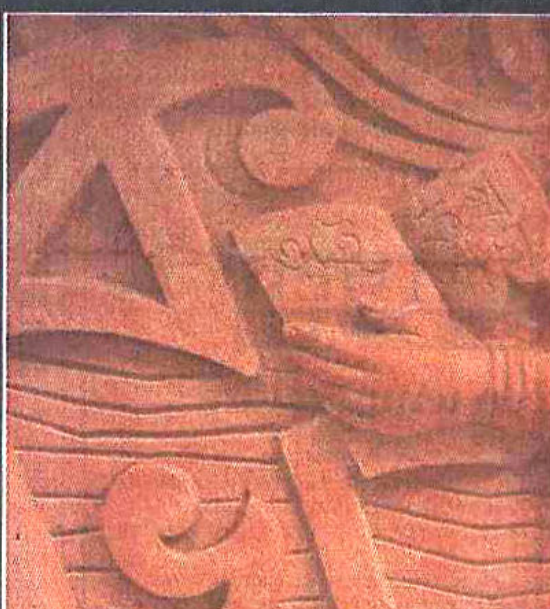
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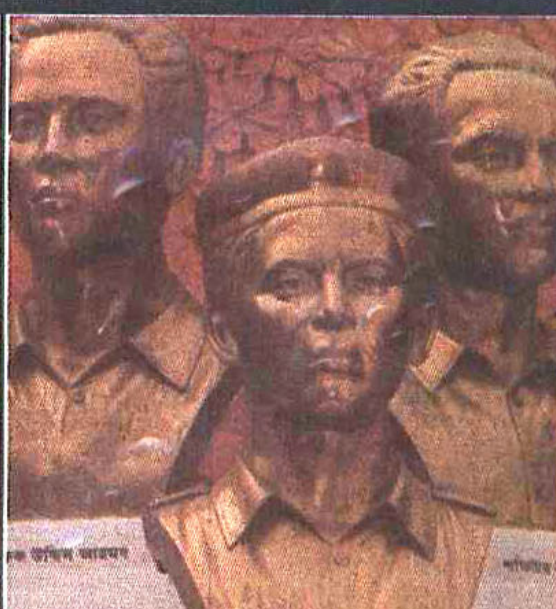
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চিরদিনই অবিনশ্বর



কিছু মুখ
চেতনার আলো ছড়ায় সারা বিশ্বে

গ্রামীণফোন