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SC may get new judges next month

6 posts vacant in Appellate Division for long

ASHUTOSH SARKAR
A few judges will be appointed to the Appellate Division of Supreme Court next month, since the division has been experiencing a severe shortage of judges for several months. The president will make the appointments on recommendations from the chief justice. There are only 5 judges in the Appellate Division now, as 6 out of the total of 11 retired. The five sitting judges are -- Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque, Justice MA Matin, Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman, Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, and Justice SK Sinha. Justice MA Matin will go into retirement on December 26 this year, and Justice Shah Abu

Nayeem Mominur Rahman, who will retire on November 11 next year, is now on a leave on grounds of health complexities. SC sources said the chief justice is consulting his Appellate Division and High Court Division colleagues about the appointments. He however is yet to decide on the number, the sources added. The vacant posts at the apex court are filled through elevation of judges from the High Court Division. No new judge was appointed to the Appellate Division during the last 15 months, although around 8,000 cases are now pending with it, sources at the chief justice's office said.

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Brahmanbaria, Habiganj JS by-polls Jan 27

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The by-elections for the Habiganj-1 and Brahmanbaria-3 constituencies will be held on January 27, next year, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda announced yesterday at a press conference at the Election Commission (EC) Secretariat. However, it has not been confirmed yet whether the main opposition BNP will join the by-elections or not.

BDR MUTINY ACCUSED 8 unclip handcuffs in prison van

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A BDR special court yesterday asked the jail authorities to take necessary action against eight accused mutineers of 24 Rifle Battalion who unclipped their handcuffs on way to the courtroom from prison. The eight of 667 accused unclipped their handcuffs by wire when they were being carried in a prison van to Darbar Hall at Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) headquarters in Pikhana. Court officials detected the mischief in CCTV camera after they entered the courtroom. Charged, three soldiers instantly changed their names and gave false identities. Sepoy Abdul Rahim introduced him as Rahman, sepoy Mohammad Sajadul Islam as Kashedul and

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Shanties burn as firefighters try to douse the flames in Kazipara slum at Kazir Dewari in Chittagong yesterday. Story on page 19.

PHOTO: STAR

Hijb ut-Tahrir treasurer, 5 activists held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Police last night arrested six members of banned Islamic outfit Hizb ut-Tahrir, Bangladesh, including its treasurer from the city's Uttara and recovered two petrol bombs from their possession. The arrestees are Parvez

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Prayer Timing		
December 23		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-25	6-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-24	5-27
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Build capacity to utilise climate funds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Bangladesh should concentrate on building capacity to utilise the climate-change fund as it will start to receive the money soon, said speakers at a roundtable yesterday. The speakers also said the money would start flowing in as soon as the necessary process to receive the fund is completed. The roundtable was organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on "COP 16: Debrief and Way Forward" on the outcome of last Cancun Climate Conference. The speakers said it is documented in different reports and discussed in many international forums that Bangladesh is the most vulnerable

country that deserves sufficient compensation. "Climate change is a challenge and at the same time it is an opportunity for us," said Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP. "This is an opportunity for us to take a lead in this sector to show the world how to adapt to the climate change," he observed, saying Bangladesh is in a much better position than many other countries. He suggested that the UNDP help Bangladesh build capacity of people working on climate change in government and non-governmental sectors. Saber underscored the need for an international political will to address the ongoing

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OnlinePoll ✓
Do you think Bangladesh Ansar should be given the authority to arrest anyone without warrant as recommended by the force?

Yes (8.1%)
 No (90.9%)
 No Comments (1.0%)

Total votes: 575

TODAY'S POLL
Would you support if the government restricts private cars with less than four or five passengers to ply the streets in the capital to ease traffic congestion?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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On behalf of the Board of Directors, Officers & Staffs, valued Shareholders & Clients, we express our heartfelt congratulations to **Mr. A.K.M. Monirul Hoque** Vice-Chairman & Founder Chairman of **Nitol Insurance Company Limited** for being elected a member of Executive Committee of Bangladesh Insurance Association (BIA) for the term of 2011-2012. We also congratulate the newly elected Chairman, Vice Chairman & other Members of the executive committee. We believe that **Mr. A.K.M. Monirul Hoque** would be able to contribute his knowledge & wisdom for the betterment of the insurance sector of Bangladesh as well as national economy. We wish his continuous success for the years to come.

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