

PRAN PRAN-RFL GROUP Since 1981



Working for dairy development in Bangladesh

# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

Innovations  
WIN  
HEARTS

COMMITTED TO  
People's Right to Know

Plus Rising Stars

SAMSUNG  
New Galaxy  
at Tk. 2,606\*



0% interest for 12 months  
100% FREE DELIVERY  
TRANSKOM DIGITAL

REGD. NO. DA 781 • VOL. XX No. 339 • DHAKA THURSDAY DECEMBER 30, 2010 • POUH 16, 1417 BS • MUHARRAM 23, 1432 HJRI • 32 PAGES PLUS RISING STARS PRICE: Tk 10.00 • www.thedailystar.net

## On wrong trail to power

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court in its landmark judgment on the seventh amendment has made some observations on the unconstitutional takeovers by military generals after the country's independence.

In the full text of the verdict released yesterday, the HC kept a separate section "Aftermath of Bangabandhu's Killing: History of Extra Constitutional Power Game."

The judgment says the defeated anti-liberation forces with the help from abroad had been conspiring to spoil the fruits of the country's Liberation War while the father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman remained busy building the war-ravaged country after its independence on

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## Democracy dealt havoc

HC castigates military regimes of Ershad, Zia in 7th amendment verdict; says military rulers, accomplices must be punished

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK with RAKIB AHAMMED

The High Court came down heavily on martial law and both military regimes in the country in its judgment on the Seventh Amendment and said all military rulers and their accomplices must be punished.

"Not only General Ershad but all his accomplices as well as such perpetrators of 1975 martial law, who may still be alive, must face the wrath of ultimate justice," said the HC in its historic judgment.

The court judgment said: "Two military regimes, the first being with effect from 15th August, 1975, and the second one being between 24th March 1982, and 10th November 1986, put the country miles backward. Both the martial laws devastated the democratic fabric, as well as the patriotic aspiration of the country."

The HC released the full text (136 pages) of its judgment yesterday, after four

months of pronouncing the verdict in the historic Seventh Amendment case on August 26.

The verdict came following a petition filed by Siddique Ahmed of Chittagong in January challenging legality of the Seventh Amendment to the Constitution.

The petitioner also contested his

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1  
SEE ON LINE EDITION FOR FULL TEXT

## Ershad mum

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former military dictator HM Ershad kept quiet after the full text of the High Court verdict on the seventh amendment of the constitution was released yesterday.

Ershad, chairman of Jatiya Party, a key component of the ruling Awami League-led grand alliance government, welcomed

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



Martial Law a concept alien to constitution

Govt advised to find evidence, indict juntas for sedition

Two military regimes put country miles back

Zia opened doors for communal politics

Bangabandhu's killing resulted from a plot to wipe out Liberation War principles

## Rab arrest reveals horror

Children abducted, maimed, forced to begging

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion on Tuesday night arrested an alleged member of a gang that abducts and maims children, and then forces them into begging on streets or prostitution, just to take away the money from them.

Shariful Islam alias Korban was arrested from Uttara of the capital.

Earlier, he was accused in a case in connection with chopping off a young boy's penis on September 6 in Kamrangirchar, but was not arrested, as he was absconding.

At a media briefing yesterday, held at the Rab headquarters in Uttara, Rab Legal and Media Wing Director Commander M Sohail said the gang led by one Omar Faruk of the city's Kamrangirchar is involved in kidnapping and maiming children of low income group families, then they use those children to earn money through making them beg on city streets.

"The gang members also abduct and rape young girls in Kamrangirchar area, then they use the girls for prostitution to earn money," Sohail added.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

The Daily Star LEADERSHIP COLLOQUIUM

### Star's new initiative on leadership

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star launches another innovative initiative "The Daily Star Leadership Colloquium", a new annual event, from January next year.

It is a platform for exchanging technological ideas and bringing together

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL Sayedee denied bail, sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday rejected Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee's bail prayer and sent him back to jail.

Sayedee is accused of committing crimes against humanity and war crimes during the Liberation War in 1971.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice Md Nizamul Huq directed the authorities to produce him before it on February 16 next year.

It also asked the investigation agency concerned to complete the probe into charges against Sayedee and submit its report by February 15.

The tribunal said it will issue necessary orders if the report is not placed within the time limit.

Earlier, Sayedee was produced before the tribunal, and the bail petition was filed by his lawyer Tajul Islam.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

## Textile mill sealed, fined Tk 2.24cr for pollution

Factory keeps ETP shut, discharges waste into vast wetland, farmland in Mymensingh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday sealed Experience Textiles Ltd, a Pakistani venture for fabric dyeing at Bhaluka in Mymensingh, and fined it Tk 2.24 crore for polluting over 232 acres of agricultural land.

This is the highest amount of fine ever imposed by the DoE.

Officials involved in the DoE drive that detected such a massive pollution said the factory authorities kept their effluent treatment plant (ETP) shut, and were discharging liquid toxic pollutants through a pipeline in Kakchhara and Sadhuya beels (wetlands) and agricultural lands around.

They wanted to hide their misdeed by covering with large polythene sheets the spot where the pollutants are discharged from the pipeline, said Mohammad Munir Chowdhury, DoE director of enforcement and monitoring.

The pipeline was blocked yesterday. The affected locals hailed the drive as they had repeatedly complained about it earlier only in vain.

"Local people are very happy as the factory owners were ignoring their demand for an end to polluting their cultivable land," said Munir.

During the drive, experts examined samples of the liquid waste collected from the spot and examined it.

And they found the waste very harmful for crops, aquatic species and human health, said a press release of the DoE.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 6

## JSC results today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC) exams will be simultaneously published today instead of December 31 as was announced earlier.

Some 15,05,391 students of class-VIII from 27,221 educational institutions sat for the exams. Of them, 12,33,391 were from eight education boards and 2,72,000 from the madrasa education board.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid will formally announce the results at a press briefing at his ministry at 3:00pm today. Prior to it, a copy of the results will be

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

## Cabinet to consider Child Act today

ALPHA ARZU

The draft Child Act, 2010 will be placed in the cabinet today with a proposal for considering individuals under the age of 18 as children.

Once the law is enacted, children under nine years cannot be sent to courts for trial or handcuffed and children under 12 cannot be manhandled during arrest. The act also deals with how juveniles should be tried.

A Children's Welfare Board would be formed to protect children's rights and to provide protection to them under the act.

Social Welfare Minister Enamul Haq Mostafa Shaheed told The Daily Star yesterday that the act will provide protection and ensure rights to 47 percent of the total population in Bangladesh.

The original act formulated

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7



An eight-year-old putting a coat on writing slates at Kamrangirchar on the outskirts of the capital yesterday. The cabinet today is expected to discuss a proposed law that would raise the age ceiling of children to 18 years. But children such as this girl are still being employed in jobs.

## TIB explains graft survey

Submits documents to SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday submitted its household survey report with an explanation of it to the Supreme Court.

It submitted the documents in compliance with the SC directive on Tuesday that asked for relevant documents and the TIB survey report according to which most service seekers fell victim to corruption at the judiciary.

Rezwan-ul-Alam, TIB director (outreach and communication), told The Daily Star that a TIB official took the papers to the SC.

"We have sent five copies of our report and a four-page FAQs (frequently asked questions) with a cover letter," said the TIB director.

On the FAQs, he said answers are given to the queries on the survey in addition to the questions on the methodology.

Earlier, an SC high official told The Daily Star for anonymity that the SC would take action if the TIB provides the names of the people in judiciary who are involved in corruption.

The TIB report released on December 23 in the capital created a commotion and drew flaks from the law minister. Following the incident, three cases -- two in Chittagong and

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## End of anxious wait

Somali pirates free 2 Bangladeshi, 20 other crewmen of German ship hijacked 7 months ago

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

After seven months' anxious wait, the news of release on Tuesday came as a relief to the families of Chief Officer Mohammad Jafar Iqbal and Second Engineer ABM Giasuddin Azam Khan.

The two Bangladeshis along with other crewmen of German chemical tanker MT Marida Marguerite, hijacked by Somali pirates on May 8, were released in the afternoon.

The pirates released the vessel after they had received US\$ 5.5 million, according to different websites reports.

Captain Imtiaz, managing director of local agent of the ship Marine (Agencies) Services Limited, said the cargo ship with 22 crewmembers was seized approximately 120 nautical miles (222 kilometres) south of the Salalah Port of Oman. Of the crewmen, 19 are from India, one from Ukraine and two from Bangladesh.



Jafar Iqbal and ABM Giasuddin

The family members of Jafar and Giasuddin in the port city received the good news the same day but they are still anxious about their safe return.

Jafar's mother Farida Tun-Nur Chowdhury, 52, started weeping for joy when she received the news at their Sugandha residence.

She said she had passed many a sleepless night over the last few months, worrying about her son.

Jafar phoned her around five months ago in the first week of August and since then there

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

শুভ উদ্বোধন

ঢাকা শ্যামলীতে

৬৫ তম শাখা

৩০ ডিসেম্বর ২০১০ বৃহস্পতিবার

আধুনিক ব্যাংকিং সেবার অঙ্গীকার নিয়ে মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংক লিমিটেড-এর "রিং রোড শাখা" আজ আনুষ্ঠানিক কার্যক্রমের শুভ সূচনা করছে।

রিং রোড শাখা  
চয়েস এ. জে. গোবিন্দ টাওয়ার  
২/১ রিং রোড, শ্যামলী, ঢাকা  
ফোনঃ ০১৭১৩৪৫৩৮৪৫

বাংলা ব্যাংক

মার্কেটাইল ব্যাংক লিমিটেড  
Mercantile Bank Limited  
দক্ষতাই আমাদের শক্তি

প্রধান কার্যালয়ঃ ৬১ দিল্লীবাগ বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০, ফোন : ৯৫৫৯৩৩৩, ফ্যাক্স : ৯৫৬১২১৩, ওয়েব সাইট : www.mblbd.com