

Did you know?

The Potala Palace is located in Lhasa, Tibet. The building measures 400 metres east to west and 350 metres north to south, with sloping stone walls averaging more than 16 ft thick at the base. Copper was poured into the foundations to help proof it against earthquakes.



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NEWS flakes

SEVENTH AMENDMENT VERDICT

No relief for petitioner

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

The landmark High Court judgment cancelling the Seventh Amendment to the Constitution came following sixty-four-year-old Siddique Ahmed's writ but it didn't deliver any personal remedy for the petitioner.



Siddique Ahmed

The petitioner was not relieved by the judgment as the judges of the case preferred not to interfere with his conviction and sentence despite his expectation to that end.

Though the HC judgment declared illegal HM Ershad's military regime (1982-1986) and all martial law courts and trials, Siddique's conviction in such a tribunal

prevails. He also wanted an order from the HC for retrial of the case in an existing court set up constitutionally. But he was not given that privilege in the watershed judgment, full text of which was released on Wednesday.

Siddique was convicted for life term in a martial law court in 1986. The seventh amendment was made to legitimise the martial law proclamation and orders during Ershad's military regime, under which many trials were held in martial law courts.

In January this year Siddique filed a writ with the HC through his lawyer Barrister

SEE PAGE 13 COL 4



BNP stalwart Salauddin Quader Chowdhury makes a gesture at photojournalists as he is being put into a prison van at the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: STAR

3 killed as Jubo League men clash in Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah.

Three activists of Jubo League were killed in a factional clash at Pabahati village under Sadar upazila yesterday evening.

The deceased were identified as Alam Ali, 41, son of Abed Ali of Pabahati village, Bazlur Rahman, 28,

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

Grandchildren of war heroes get job quota

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to bring the grand children of freedom fighters under the 30 percent quota facility in government jobs.

The decision was

SEE PAGE 13 COL 7

Tree felling ban extended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday decided to extend the ban on felling of forest trees up to 2015 to conserve the country's dwindling forest resources.

The cabinet took the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

SC body to examine TIB report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque yesterday formed a committee comprising five

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

HIJACKED BY SOMALI PIRATES

Ship runs short of water, fuel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Somali pirates, who have hijacked Bangladeshi ship MV Jahan Moni, remained out of contact for five days until yesterday amidst concern that the stock of drinking water and fuel in the ship might be exhausted.

Officials of the ship's operating firm Brave Royal Ship Management Limited said this yesterday at a view-exchange meeting with the family members of 25 crewmen of the ship.

At the meeting at a local hotel, Meherul Karim, general manager of the company, said he talked to one of the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6

CJ shows the way

Turns in his wealth report to president

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque yesterday submitted his wealth statement to President Zillur Rahman.

A source at the Supreme Court told The Daily Star that the chief justice on Monday would ask judges of the Appellate Division and the High Court divisions to submit their wealth statement to him.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 8

TRANSIT TO NEIGHBOURS

Govt plans extensive study on routes, fees

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government will conduct an extensive study to fix routes and fees, and assess the volume of traffic before allowing transit to India, Nepal and Bhutan.

Five sub-committees have been formed to this effect.

The decisions came recently at a meeting of the core committee on transit with Tariff Commission

Chairman Mujibur Rahman as its head.

The core committee was supposed to submit its report on transit by December 25. But it got the deadline for submission extended to January 15 next year for conducting a detailed study, said an official at the commerce ministry wishing anonymity.

Mujibur Rahman told The Daily Star on Wednesday that the sub-committees have been formed to look into all aspects of transit to neighbouring countries.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

OnlinePoll

Do you support the government decision to build Bangabandhu International Airport on thousands of acres of agricultural land and the biggest wetland near the capital?

Yes (29.8%)
No (69.5%)
No Comments (0.7%)

Total votes: 1280

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government should take initiative to try former military dictator HM Ershad for sedition?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

December 31

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-27	5-30
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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Best Financial Institution of Bangladesh Award

In recognition of its consistent performance, Bangladesh Business Award by DHL - Daily Star, awarded Pubali Bank as the Best Financial Institution

Country's largest online network with 150 branches

With in-house software - Pubali Integrated Banking System (PIBS) - evaluated by PwC, the bank launched its online Banking - becoming the largest online network of the country with 150 branches

Double A Credit Rating

Credit Rating Authority of Bangladesh (CRAB) has rated AA3 signifying "Very Strong Capacity" in long term and ST1 signifying "Highest Grade" in short term

Largest Private Bank with 400 branches

Rather than focusing on only in metro areas, to reach the rural economy, the Bank has established 400 branches all over Bangladesh - largest network in private sector banks

Highest ever growth achieved by Pubali Bank

In the year 2010, the Bank continued its consistent performance and has marked the highest ever growth

One of the largest private sector recruiters

The bank is ensuring employment of Bangladeshi talents through massive recruitment and proper training - this year 550 officers joined the Pubali family

Diverse list of products

The bank introduced diversified products to cater the financial needs of a larger scale - innovation and emphasis on agriculture, foreign wage earners scheme, remittance, SME, trade finance etc

Introduced Islamic Banking

With increasing demand, the Bank has opened its Islamic wing

Special recognition for CSR

Huge contribution for disaster management, development of health sector, supporting local sports and different other social contributions brought the Special Recognition for CSR by Banker's Forum and others

...we will continue to strive for excellence in coming days
Wish you all Happy New Year



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