



The Daily Star

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

Hoteliers and florists log huge sales

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CRICKET IN 2011

Tigers couldn't take the upward step

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'TALIBAN NOT OUR ENEMY'

Afghan president welcomes US comments on the insurgents

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GREETINGS

The Daily Star
Wishes its valued readers, patrons, well-wishers and advertisers a
Happy New Year

BRIEF REVIEW OF 2011

Mixed bag of bold steps, grave failures

STAR REPORT

Some years leave a deep imprint on the future for the better. This one was certainly not one of them. The best that can be said about it is that it was a mixed bag of bold initiatives and miserable failures. This being the third of a five year term, it was the Awami League government's last opportunity to undertake important but unpopular reforms. For the remaining two years the ruling party is likely to be in the 're-election' mode and therefore more prone to populist and costly decisions.

From high cost of living to the beginning of the trial of war criminals, from repeated increase in fuel prices to cancel-

lation of the caretaker government, from share market debacle to an exciting local government election in which a female candidate defeats the choice of a mighty prime minister -- all this defines the bygone year.

The decision that is likely to have the highest impact on the future of the country's democracy is the government's cancellation of the caretaker government system following a Supreme Court verdict. While doing away with the caretaker system, the Supreme Court had also given the choice that the system could continue for the next two elections.

But the government chose to

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AULD LANG SYNE: As another year goes by, it is time people, like this young girl in the photo, look for innovative and lovely ways to wish their family members and friends a Happy New Year. Gift and card shops see a rush of customers, mostly youth, on New Year's Eve. The picture was shot at the capital's New Market yesterday. PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Inter-dist bus fare hiked

Up 15 paise per km, effective from tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday increased fares of intercity buses by Tk 0.15 per kilometre less than 48 hours after increasing fuel prices. The new fare will be effective from tomorrow.

It was the third time the government increased bus

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Water tank collapses on house

Girl dies, 3 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An eight-year-old schoolgirl was killed and three others of the family sustained injuries as a water tank of their rented house collapsed on them while they were asleep early yesterday at Jigatola of the city.

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Railway unveils roadmap

30-month plan includes 2 more Dhaka-Tongi tracks, improving passenger service

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Railway yesterday unveiled a two-and-a-half-year roadmap to implement 67 projects to develop the long-neglected railway sector.

It focuses on construction of additional tracks to Dhaka-Joydebpur and Dhaka-Narayanganj routes to run trains on time and transport more passengers.

According to the plan, railway will build

third and fourth tracks between Kamalapur Railway Station and Tongi junction, where most of the Dhaka-bound trains stop for clearance wasting valuable time of the passengers.

The two additional rail lines will help railway operate more trains on time.

Announcing the plan at Rail Bhaban, Railways Minister Suranjit Sengupta told newsmen, "I have been pressing the

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Textbook festival in schools today

22.13cr free new books to be distributed nationwide

BSS, Dhaka

The first day of 2012 will be celebrated as "Text Book Distribution Festival" in all primary and secondary schools and madrasas across the country.

The government will distribute 22,13,66,383 copies of free new books among 3,12,13,759 students of

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The bank with a difference wins the rewards of your trust

Let's celebrate this achievement with the joy of New Year!

When we achieve an award, we dedicate it to our valued stakeholders – You! So as we receive these prestigious accolades in 2011, we present them to you with the wishes for a great year ahead. Thank you for staying with our journey of being the bank with a difference.

These achievements include SAFA (South Asian Federation of Accountants) Awards for the Best Presented Accounts and Corporate Disclosures in Banking Sector, ICAB (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh) National Award for the Best Published Accounts & Reports and Best Corporate Award of ICMAB (Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh).



ICAB National Award
7th consecutive victory
1st prize



SAFA Award
3rd consecutive victory
1st prize



ICMAB Best Corporate Award
2nd consecutive victory
1st prize

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2011 CSR INITIATIVES



Resolution of Change BRAC Bank CSR Initiatives 2011

The 3P philosophy "People, Planet and Profit" has become our core belief at BRAC Bank and also part of the DNA of our Business. We as a Bangladeshi Bank have taken initiatives not only for the people and society as a whole but also maintain the same values while carrying our day-to-day business.

This report of our CSR initiatives, which is an industry first, tells the stories of life, humanity and the earth.

It carries more of the passion within and less of the numbers.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

Syed Mahbubur Rahman
Managing Director & CEO

Member of: GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR BANKING (GAB) ON 10/1/2012
Winner 2010: FT SUSTAINABLE BANKING AWARDS Emerging Markets Asia
Winner 2011: EXCELLENCE IN RETAIL FINANCIAL SERVICES 2011

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