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7TH FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Government eyes 8 percent economic growth by 2020

PAGE B1

'THE LAW IS KING'

Thomas Paine said so once, but is it the case in Bangladesh?

PAGE 6

LIBERALS ARE BACK

Trudeau's Liberal Party sweeps to power in Canada after a decade of Conservative rule



Bangabandhu Satellite

French firm gets contract

Launching on Dec 16, 2017 to help boost broadcasting, telecom services

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

French company Thales Alenia Space has been given the job of launching Bangladesh's first satellite as part of the government's efforts to narrow the digital divide and create new opportunities.

The cabinet committee on purchase yesterday approved

Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission's proposal for awarding a work order to the company for launching commercial satellite Bangabandhu-1 by December 2017.

Thales Alenia Space will manufacture, launch and maintain it for providing communication and broadcast services, said State Minister for Posts and Telecommunications SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Life has never been good to 17-year-old Russell, but he never stops dreaming of becoming a painter. When he was six, he lost both his hands and part of a leg under the wheels of a train while playing near rail tracks in the capital's Kamalapur. But he refused to be written off. To ease the burden on his day-labourer parents, he went to his aunt's house in Chandpur, and there began his triumph over the odds. Now he draws pictures sitting on the town's streets from morning till noon every day, and passersby drop money seeing his talent or out of sympathy. He sends most of the proceeds to his parents who live in the capital's Malibagh with his six siblings. The photo was taken yesterday near Chandpur Govt College. PHOTO: ALAM PALASH

COURT CORRESPONDENT



MOBILE SIM Biometric registration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

on trial run

The trial run of biometric SIM registration system will be inaugurated today.

Prime minister's ICT Affairs Adviser Sajeeb Wazed Joy will formally launch the pilot project at the Posts and Telecommunications Division. He will buy a new SIM and leave his fingerprint on a biometric device connected to the database of Election Commission.

Under the system, mobile phone operators will take subscribers' fingerprints on a biometric device and verify the scans against SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Explain why action won't be taken

HC asks police on the 16-year-old who drove SUV and hit rickshaws in Gulshan injuring 4

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the police authorities to explain in two weeks why they should not be ordered to take legal actions against Fareez Rahman, the underage driver of an SUV that hit two rickshaws in Gulshan, injuring four people.

The ruling came as law enforcers have not taken any action in this regard, even eight days after the incident.

crash scene said Fareez, nephew of former

Awami League lawmaker Dr HBM Iqbal, was racing with another car on a waterlogged Gulshan street and had been drinking before the crash.

Giving its ruling on a Public Interest Litigation, the HC further asked why departmental proceedings should not be taken against the officer-in-charge of Gulshan police for not carrying out his duty in this

The rule was issued on the inspector

Bribe-taking govt official suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over a week after withdrawing him from the controller's post at the office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, the commerce ministry on Monday suspended Md

Shahidul Haque who has recently been filmed taking bribes from service seekers.

On instructions from the higher authorities, the ministry has made Shahidul an SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced BNP leader and former city mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka to 13 years in prison for amassing illegal wealth and concealing information in his wealth statement. 1 lakh on the two charges. If he fails to pay the fine, he will

Shahidul Haque

have to spend seven more months in jail. Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar of the Special Judge's Court of Dhaka said

It also fined the BNP vice-chairman Tk 10 lakh and Tk

the jail term will be effective from the day of his surrender or arrest. The court declared the verdict in absentia after cross-examination of 40

prosecution witnesses in the case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission. This was the first time a court delivered a judgment in a case against

Khoka gets 13 yrs

for illegal wealth

Khoka who has been accused in a dozen of criminal cases. SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

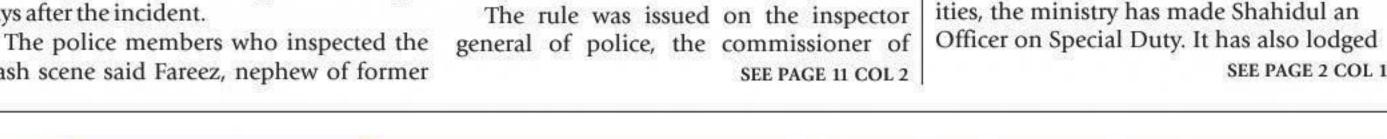


"This [traffic congestion] will not be solved until a single institution is empowered to deal with the issue."

> **JOHANNES ZUTT** THE WB'S DHAKA OFFICE

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