



REMOVAL OF SC JUDGES

Power not with JS

Apex court rejects govt appeal; restriction on MPs one of the main reasons for parliament to lose authority

AUTHORITY TO REMOVE SC JUDGES

- 1 JS 1972-1975
- 2 President 1975-1978
- 3 SJC 1978-2014
- 4 JS 2014-2016



The Supreme Court verdict proves that the country's judi-

THE PM TELLS HER CABINET COLLEAGUES YESTERDAY, ACCORDING TO MEETING SOURCES.

SHAKHAWAT LITON and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Jatiya Sangsad no longer has the power to remove Supreme Court judges for incapacity or misconduct as the government has finally lost the legal battle to defend the controversial 16th constitutional amendment that restored this authority of parliament.

The High Court in May last year ruled that the amendment was illegal

and unconstitutional as it found the changes went against the principles of the separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary.

In the legal battle with the HC, the government tried to defend the amendment which being passed in September 2014 abolished the chief justice-led Supreme Judicial Council to empower parliament.

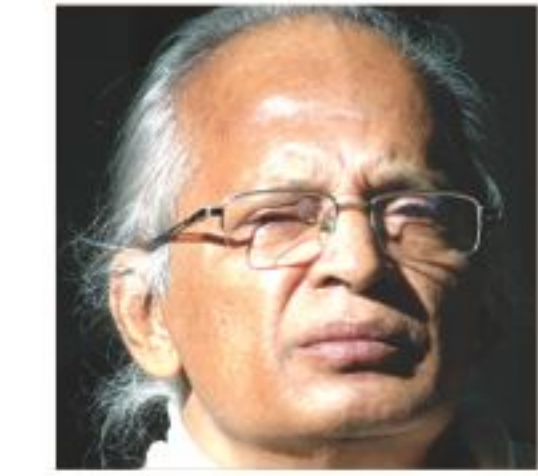
On January 4 this year, it filed an appeal with the Supreme Court against

the HC verdict.

After hearing the arguments for and against the appeal for over 11 days, a seven-member SC bench headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday unanimously upheld the HC verdict by rejecting the appeal.

While announcing the short order, the chief justice said they dismissed the appeal unanimously with some

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Farhad Mazhar found hrs after 'going missing'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Writer, columnist and poet Farhad Mazhar was found on a bus in Jessore last night, 18 hours after he reportedly went missing from outside his home in the capital's Adabor.

A joint team of Rab-6 and police stopped the bus in Noapara area around 11:30pm and found Farhad, said Didar Ahmed, deputy inspector general of police (Khulna range).

The law enforcers pulled over the vehicle after setting up a checkpoint in the

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9 killed in Gazipur boiler blast

At least 50 injured in the explosion that rips through a garment factory

STAR REPORT

At least nine people were killed and about 50 others injured in a boiler explosion at a garment factory in Joydebpur of Gazipur yesterday evening.

The death toll may rise as some of the victims are injured critically, said Aminul Islam, officer-in-charge of Joydebpur Police Station. Identities of the deceased could not be ascertained till last night. Six of the victims died at the scene while two in local hospitals and one in Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The boiler explosion at a factory of Multifabs Ltd in Kashimpur area around 7:15pm was massive. Some people on the street beside the factory were injured as well, said Akhtaruzzaman, deputy assistant director of fire service in Gazipur.

Six units of fire engines doused the fire caused by the blast around 9:30pm and rescued people, he said.

Mesba Faruqui, Director (Factory and Operation) of Multifabs Ltd, said he heard about the fire.

The factory was scheduled to open today (Tuesday) after the Eid vacation, he claimed, adding that some people were there for maintenance works.

Contacted, an inspector of the Office of the Chief Inspector of Boilers, a government agency under the industries ministry, said it seemed like the boiler exploded due to an operational error.

Multifabs Ltd is an export oriented one-stop manufacturer of knitted apparel, according to its website.

Deputy Commissioner of Gazipur Mohammad Humayun Kabir said an eight-member committee headed by the additional district magistrate of Gazipur was formed to find the cause of the fire. The committee will submit the report in seven working days.

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UTTARA BLAZE KILLS TWO - PAGE 16



Halla Government Primary School in Moulvibazar's Borolekha upazila remains inundated for over a week. A boat is kept outside the school building for loading some furniture onto it. Like this institution, around 200 primary and high schools in the district have been shut following floods triggered by downpours and onrush of water from the hills in the bordering areas. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

All rivers overflowing

Flood situation worsens further in Sylhet

DWOHA CHOWDHURY and MINTU DESHWARA

The flooding in Sylhet might take an alarming turn and trigger landslides in the hilly areas as heavy rain is expected to continue in the district till Friday.

More than one lakh people have been marooned in several upazilas as downpours and onrush of water from the upstream inundated vast swathes of land.

In Moulvibazar, the overall flood situation remained unchanged yesterday as houses, schools and roads went under water.

According to Water Development Board (WDB) and the meteorological department in Sylhet, heavy rain in the Barak basin across the border was responsible for the flood.

Rain water from upstream was causing the Surma and the Kushiara rivers spill over their banks at some

points, damaging dykes.

In Sylhet's Amalshid, where the Barak bifurcates to form the Surma and the Kushiara, water was flowing to 85 cm above the danger level on Sunday night.

The Kushiara was flowing 73 cm above the danger level at Shewla point and 24 cm at Sherpur point. The Surma was flowing 56 cm above the danger level at Kanaighat point.

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