



## Govt okays biggest pry edn overhaul

The six-year Tk 4,933 cr project to end by June 2009

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government yesterday gave the go-ahead for a massive overhaul of primary education under a six-year project to improve the standards of education and broaden educational service.

"It is the biggest ever programme for primary education to be implemented in phases with government

and donor funds," Tahmina Hossain, secretary of the Primary and Mass Education Division, told The Daily Star.

The new programme will strengthen monitoring and decentralise the administrative power in primary education. Besides, officials will get more power to reinforce supervision by providing local and international consultants, said

Tahmina.

The plan, "Primary Education Development Programme", will be implemented at a cost of Tk 4,933 crore -- Tk 3,699 crore (equivalent to \$639 million) of the amount to be provided by donors.

As many as 35,000 schoolteachers will be appointed, with about 3,500 teachers to be recruited this

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## Judge court goes to hills

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament yesterday passed two bills, abolishing the post of vice president and making provision for setting up the district and sessions judge's court in the three hill districts.

Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, minister for local government, rural development and cooperatives, proposed the passage of 'The President's (Remuneration and Privileges) (Amendment) Bill, 2003' and Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Moudud Ahmed proposed 'The Chittagong Hill Tracts Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2003'.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

## 2 'extortionists' lynched in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two alleged extortionists were lynched in Sutrapur and Khilgaon yesterday, police said.

Saddam Hossain Rana, 28, was beaten to death by a mob in front of his house at Paridas Road in Sutrapur, while construction workers beat Mohammad Motin, 28, to death inside an under-construction building at Hajipara in Khilgaon.

The first incident happened at around noon when a mob chased down alleged extortionist Rana and beat him up just outside his house before police could rescue the fatally injured young man. Rana was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he died.

Police said Rana along with a few other men went to the neighbourhood's Chikot Confectionery Monday night to demand Tk 11,000 from its owner Akbar and threat-

ened to harm him if he didn't pay.

"The following morning, Rana realised Tk 3,000 from Akbar and said he would come back for the rest," the duty officer of Sutrapur Police Station said quoting a complaint lodged by the shop owner soon after the incident.

Shortly afterwards, Rana was lynched by local people in front of his house.

Rana's wife Mabiha Mehmud Luna however gave a different account of the incident. She said Sutrapur police went to their house to arrest Rana at around 10:00am when he was not home.

Later, the same police team caught Rana in front of the house at around 11:00am and started beating him up.

"Rana collapsed on the ground as police kept beating him. Police also incited the mob to take part in the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

## BGMEA worried over free fall of Ctg order

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) again expressed deep concern at the law and order plunge in the port city, especially the rise in the incidents of abduction.

A delegation of the BGMEA met SM Sabbir Ali, commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP), at his chamber yesterday noon and expressed the concern.

The BGMEA leaders drew the CMP commissioner's attention to the problems that anti-social elements create for women garment workers on their way to and from the factories.

"Many of our women workers are teased especially in the morning and at night. This is very annoying and we sought the CMP commissioner's help to that end," said SM Nurul Haq, first vice president of the BGMEA.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6



PHOTO: STAR

Roads did not reel under traffic jam yesterday as vehicles stayed off thanks to a hartal enforced by the Jute, Cotton and Textile Mills Employees Action Committee in protest at the government policy to close down mills and factories.

## Mill workers' hartal observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A dawn-to-dusk hartal in the city and elsewhere passed off yesterday without any incident of violence.

The Jute, Cotton and Textile Mills Employees' Action Committee enforced the 6:00am-6:00pm shut-down in protest at the lay-off of state-owned mills and factories.

The main opposition Awami League (AL), the left-leaning 11-party alliance and Sramik-Karmachari Oikya Parishad (Skop) supported the hartal.

Several hundred industrial workers and employees paraded the city streets during the hartal hours demanding withdrawal of the lay-off decision.

Police intercepted a Skop procession in front of the entrance to the

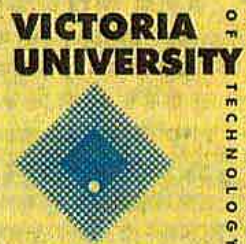
SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

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## Dhaka went to Cancun with wrong agenda

Talks failure to have little impact on Bangladesh, observe economists

STAR REPORT

The collapse of just-concluded WTO talks in Cancun will have little impact on Bangladesh, since it went to the meet with wrong agenda, economists and bureaucrats said.

By taking up wrong issues, Bangladesh failed to highlight its own interest, which was gaining market access with simplified rules of origin, they said.

Movement of natural persons was not the right agenda for Bangladesh to pursue in the changed global scenario, while farm subsidy was basically a concern for the African nations.

But, the economists said, Bangladesh being the coordinator of the least developed countries (LDCs) took a strong position on such issues.

Zaed Bakht of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies said Bangladesh's role as the coordinator of LDCs did not work at all in Cancun.

Bangladesh could not even follow up on Dhaka Declaration. On the other hand, the bloc of ACP (Africa, Caribbean, and the Pacific countries) held series of meetings on their issues, farm subsidy in particular.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

**পোলার অফার**  
জমাবে এবার

২০ টাকার পোলার আইসক্রিম কিনলেই নিশ্চিত উপহার!!!  
(কোইসক্রিম বেক, লিটার বাক্স ও প্যাটি বাক্স জন্য)

সিদ্ধান্ত:  
১. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ২. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৩. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৪. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৫. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৬. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৭. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৮. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ৯. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১০. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১১. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১২. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৩. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৪. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৫. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৬. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৭. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৮. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ১৯. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন। ২০. ২০ টাকার পোলার সান্ডি ক্রিম (বিশেষ করে) কিনে জমাবে নিন।

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