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PHILIPS

Schoolboy beaten to death in city

By Staff Correspondent A schoolboy was beaten to death at Fayedabad under Uttara thana in the city yesterday

afternoon. Sources at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital identified the dead as Abu Hanif alias Rusel, 16, a student of Class Ten of Uttara High School.

The incident took place when Rusel, son of Ibrahim, was watching a football match at Fayedabad playground. He had an altercation with a gang. At one stage, the gang started beating him and he became unconscious.

Rusel rushed to DMCH where doctors declared him dead. No case was, however, lodged with Uttara thana in this regard till the filing of this report last night.

Guidelines for setting up small power plants

The government yesterday announced a policy guideline for setting up small power plants (SPP) for generation of electricity for private use and selling the surplus to other users, reports BSS.

The plant's capacity could be 10 mw and it could be built up in stages, depending on the potential market and load growth, the guideline said, adding that the SPPs will be developed on a build-own-operate basis. The SPPs can be located in

any part of the country and the type of plant is open. The sponsor will be allowed to select the plant of any configuration provided the electrical characteristics of the plant match that of the power system in Bangla-

New envoy to Pakistan The government has ap-

pointed Masum Ahmed Chowdhury as the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Pakistan, reports BSS. A press release of the For-

eign Ministry yesterday said that he was serving as High Commissioner to Sri Lanka prior to his new assignment.

Landslides kill 100 in Tajikistan MOSCOW, Apr 29: More than

100 people were killed and 50 others were missing in massive landslides in the former Soviet Republic of Tajikistan, the Russian television TV centre reported, citing the Tajik interior ministry, reports AFP.

JP favours ban on student politics Former President H M Er-

shad yesterday said his party would support any government move to ban student politics. "There is no way but to ban

student politics to stamp out terrorism from campus in national interest and restore con genial academic atmosphere, he told UNB in Parliament. Shrimp plants

From Page 1 February 4.

The EC had imposed a ban on import of frozen food from Bangladesh on July 30 last year after a EC veterinary committee found that fish processing plants and food testing laboratories owned by the government were not maintaining the EU standard.

BNP observes countrywide protest day

Opposition BNP observed countrywide protest day yester-day demanding annulment of the 'black' CHT accord, protesting price hike of essentials and incident at Dhaka University, and also demanding immediate release of arrested JCD leaders and workers, reports UNB. As part of the programme

City BNP brought out a procession from Nawab Yusuf Market at Nayabazar yesterday. Before the procession, BNP

city unit convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP told the gathering that the government would not be able to prevent its fall by resorting to torture, and filing false cases against their leaders and workers.

The fall of the government will be hastened and oust-government movement accelerated following the ruling party's repressive measures, he said. Khoka said the government

in a planned way is snatching away the democratic rights of the people. It is not allowing the opposition to speak both in parliament and on the street.

"Police, Awami armed cadres and hired goons could not protect the ruling party from the people's outrage, Khoka said adding that the government to be ousted through mass upsurge like 1990 when JCD played a heroic role.

The city BNP convenor said the government would have to bear all consequences if the arrested JCD leaders and workers, including its president Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anny, are not freed immedi-

BNP leaders Barrister Rafigul Islam, Mirza Abbas, Gaveshwar Chandra Roy Amanullah Aman and Nazimuddin Alam also spoke at the

get hold of her. Shahid started

stabbing her indiscriminately.

including four blows on the up-

per portion of her body. Shaz-

neen was shouting for help

down on the bed and started

groaning. Shahid then dragged

her down from the bed and took

her on the floor in front of the

toilet. Then he started violating

wet on his palms. Then he

found blood in his hands

Shahid instantly went to the

toilet, washed his hands and

and sat on her body. At that

time. Parvin, one of the maids

at Rahman's residence, opened

door of the room and found

Shahid. At the time, Shahid left

the room, scaled the wall,

throwing away the knife. He

then walked to Cantonment

consistencies in Shahid's

statements. They were confused

why the kameez was not torn

when Shahid indiscriminately

CID investigation is the contra-

diction regarding Shahid's

claim that he indiscriminately

stabbed her while the kameez

she was wearing bore no trace of

kameez might have been put on

her after she was stabbed to

death. This is leading to the

question whether there was any

other person abetting Shahid in

other inconsistencies that CID

house, Humayun Kabir told CID

that he found Shahid leaving

through the main entrance of

the house. But Shahid said till

yesterday that he had scaled

about an eight feet boundary

his shirt in his trouser pocket

as it was stained with blood. He

was wearing a vest. CID sources

said quoting Shahid's version.

Shahid in Rahman's residence

Shahid identified Hemayet as

one of his cousins. Earlier po-

lice said Hemayet described

himself to be an uncle of

businessman's residence in

Gulshan for about one and a

half years before he came to

Rahman's residence. He spent a

few months in his village under

Moksedpur thana in Gopalganj

not completed primary educa-

tion was the second among his

three sisters and two brothers.

His father Siddiq Mollah a

farmer in their village,

interrogating five other ser-

vants, placed on a seven-day

remand on Sunday. Besides

on Saturday gave confessional

statements accusing Shahid of

investigating why Shahid nar

rated a story of kidnapping

when he surrendered to Kotwali

thana of the CMP. But during

about two hours' interrogation

by a team of senior CID officials

at their Malibagh headquarters

in the city Monday night.

Shahid confessed his involve-

ment in Shazneen murder, re-

tracting his statement he had

given after surrender to the

likely to visit Tongi today or

tomorrow to find out the spot

where Shahid reportedly

washed his blood stained shirt.

Besides, CID investigators had

visited Rahman's residence yes-

tioned about 25 people includ-

ing inmates of Rahman's resi-

dence, a friend of Shazneen and

Gayoom

some others in the locality.

CID team has so far ques-

Meanwhile, a CID team is

CMP Monday morning.

terday.

CID investigators were also

two maids — Parvin and Minu

murdering Shazneen.

Meanwhile, police were also

Shahid who reportedly has

Shahid worked in another

2) Shahid said that he put

3) Hemayet introduced

wall after climbing a tree.

Following are some of the

1) A security guard at the

CID is considering that the

One of the main focuses of

However, police found in-

railway station.

stabbed her.

knife perforation.

is investigating.

Shahid

before that.

Bhangadurgapur

He again came to Shazneen

the knife. CID sources said.

Later Shahid felt something

At one stage Shazneen fell

saying, 'save me... save me.'

Shazneen murder

From Page 1

cial yesterday evening when asked whether they have got any new name from Shahid in connection with the killing.

However, CID officials almost confirmed that Shahid brutally killed Shazneen. A CID official said the whole incident could not take more than half an hour.

But the CID investigators' suspicion centred the kameez which Shazneen was wearing when she was found in a pool of blood on the floor in front of her bedroom's toilet. There was no perforation in the kameez nor it was torn, CID sources

However, the autopsy report showed that there were about 22 cut marks on Shazneen's body, including four deep wounds in her neck, chest and shoulder. The investigation till yes-

terday showed that Shazneen was brutally stabbed to death as she resisted the attacker who tried to abuse her. Meanwhile, the medical

board said in the autopsy report that the victim died due to haemorrhage and shock caused by injuries. The autopsy report also mentioned that it was a case of homicide after viola-

Signed by Dr Mizanul Huq of forensic department of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, the autopsy report reached CID Tuesday night.

Shahid so far narrated that he took a kitchen knife in his trouser pocket and entered Shazneen's bedroom. Shazneen started shouting at him and asked him to get out of her room. Shahid then approached Shazneen and put off one of the table lamps, CID sources said quoting Shahid's confession. At the time, Shahid came

close to Shazneen and tried to

DU authorities From Page 1

after holding talks with the leaders of these major organisations first," the Vice Chancellor told UNB.

The VC said the government has assured him of allout cooperation to expel terrorists irrespective of their political affiliation. "Outsiders will never be allowed on the campus. When contacted, JCD general

secretary Habib-un-Nabi Sohel said. "The present campus situation is not in favour of any discussion as several infamous terrorists are still guarding the hall gates.

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Chehlum



Mr GS Chowdhury will be held at his village Joypara, Dohar, Dhaka, after Jumma prayer on Friday the 1st of May 1998. Friends, relatives and well-wishers are cordially invited to attend.

C-314

The Chehlum of Late

Family Members

From Page 1 The Maldives President wil visit the National Memorial at Savar and hold a press conference before his departure tomorrow for Bhutan.

Outpouring of grief

From Page 1 the protection of women and

Several schools in the capital held special assemblies and prayer meetings to mourn the death of Shazneen.

A leading city school even sent out a letter to all guardians of students expressing grief over the incident.

The school — Sunbeams — in its letter to the guardians stated that: "This monster that committed the heinous crime should be brought to justice and none of us can find peace unless this is achieved so that other children like her do not meet this horrendous fate." The teachers and students of

the school held an assembly on Sunday where the teachers spoke about her qualities. Shazneen was a student of the school from Play Group to Class VII. The school also held a doa vesterday for the salvation and peace of the departed soul. The American School in

Dhaka yesterday held a prayer service at the school premises in memory of Shazneen Tasnim Rahman. Earlier the teachers and stu-

dents of the Scholastica School, where Shazneen was studying, expressed their profound grief and shock A statement from 'Platform

for Resistance for Women signed by Hasna Moudud expressed concern over the death of Shazneen and also about repression on women and children. The organisation will hold a rally starting at 8:30 am on Saturday where women and children are expected to partic-Reports were received differ-

ent business concerns and garments factories where workers held spontaneous meetings to condemn the brutal killing of Shazneen and demanding that the authorities bring the culprits to book. Several readers rang up the

offices of The Daily Star in the last few days to express concern and grief over Shazneen's murder and demanding that there should be a social movement to restore a sense of security for private citizens and their familv members. "Our lives have been jeopardised. We see an overwhelming

sense of insecurity afflicting our lives and the lives of our children since the cruel murder of Shazneen," said Abul Kalam Azad, a businessman living in Mohakhali. Dr Latif, whose wife is employed at the ICDDRB, informed

that he takes the additional trouble of accompanying her 32-year-old wife to the workplace and back. Earlier she used to commute alone. Mrs Roushanara of Shamoli said that she accompanies her

grandchild, a student of Class VI. to school in Dhanmondi by going with her. Earlier, the girl used to go to school in the family car. Rita Rahman of Eskaton

told this correspondent that she has stopped from going to the kutcha bazar at New Market which she did once a week after the murder of Shazneen. "I feel absolutely insecured both at home and going out alone," she

Speaker's ruling

From Page He said the chairman of the special committee had demanded extension of time for scrutiny of the bills by seven days and the House unanimously approved it. He said the technical diffi-

culty in sending the bills to the special committee has been He pointed out that the

Prime Minister had said that the special committee will scrutinise the bills of the ministries which have no standing committee.

Shoot at sight

5 NGOs express concern over PM's proposal

Five national non-government organisations have expressed their deep concern over the Prime Minister's statement that she is ready to empower police to 'shoot at sight' the illegal arms-holders on the campus, reports UNB.

Human rights and legal organisations Ain-O-Salish Kendra, Bangladesh Legal Aid & Services Trust (BLAST), Madaripur Legal Aid Association, Odhikar and Jatiyo Ainjibi Parishad in a joint state-ment yesterday said, "We are disturbed and concerned to learn that the Prime Minister in reply to a question in parliament said that she would be willing to empower police to 'shoot at sight' anyone bearing arms."

The signatories said imple mentation of such a measure will constitute the most serious violation of the Constitution, existing laws and human

Even the most villainous criminal is a human being and protected by the most fundamental of all fundamental rights enshrined in the Consti-They said, "No person shall

be deprived of life or personal liberty save in accordance with law. Shooting at sight is infliction of punishment without trial and conviction and as such can never be justified." They said, there are plenty of

laws against carrying and use of arms and explosives and prosecution under the laws are the proper measures for combating terrorism. They urged the Prime Minis-

ter and her government not to empower police to "shoot at sight" under any pretext.

Repatriation of Rohingyas may resume next month The process of repatriation

of remaining Rohingya refugees to Myanmar is expected to begin next month, according to a Foreign Office spokesman in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

He said an inter-ministerial meeting yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad in the chair took stock of the Rohingya refugee situation. The meeting discussed ways of initiating the repatriation process stopped since middle of last year, he added.

Luxmıbazar

From Page 1 courtyard, adjacent to a

The authorities of the school and the mosque had been locked in a dispute on the ownership of the land for a along

The school authorities on Tuesday claimed that some unidentified persons gave a call to the people in the neighbourhood on the loudspeaker of the mosque, summoning them to save the mosque from "demoli-

Thousands of people rushed and swept over a truckload of police, deployed there earlier to guard the school as its authorities went ahead with the renovation work.

School authorities had denied the charge that it tried to demolish the mosque. Meanwhile, officials from

the British High Commission Vatican embassy and other missions and many others visited the school yesterday.

BNP stages walkout bills as they failed to do so at From Page 1

of the Opposition Khandakar

Delwar Hossain demanded that their note of dissent be accommodated in the report on the CHT local government bills as was done in the case of the Regional Council bill Referring to the point that

his party had missed the chance of giving note of dissent, Delwar said they had submitted it to the Speaker. He also requested the Speaker to circulate a fresh report on the CHT local government bills, accommodating their note of dissent on those. In this regard, he said the BNP boycotted the special

committee since its formation but attended its meetings only recently to give their viewpoints on the crucial CHT bills. The BNP had boycotted the special committee, formed 20 months ago, saying it was formed unilaterally by the government. Another BNP MP, Jamirud-

din Sircar also raised similar points while Abdul Mannan's microphone was switched off by the Chair as "he was making irrelevant statement" Advocate Fazle Rabbi of

Jatiya Party suggested that his note of dissent on the Regional Council bill should have been taken as his party's, not of his Replying to the opposition members, Suranjit Sengupta of the ruling Awami League said

that there was no scope for the

BNP members to give note of

dissent on the district councils

the proper time. Now, the BNP legislators, other than those in the special committee, could speak as much as they wished when the bills would be placed in the House for passage. Committee chief Rahmat Ali also rejected the BNP demand.

Hearing both the sides, the Speaker ruled that of the three special committee meetings on the CHT bills, the local government bills were examined in the first meet. "I don't find any scope for giving note of dissent in that report...You've missed the bus," he told the BNP mem-"Therefore, I think the

committee report has been properly placed," said the Speaker. The Speaker's decision an-

gered the BNP lawmakers who then sprang up on their feet and tried to draw the Chair's attention. As the Speaker switched over to the next item on agenda, the BNP members walked out of the House at 7.59 pm but returned after five minutes. The four CHT bills were

placed in the Sangsad on April 12 and were sent to the special committee for scrutiny the same day, giving a week's time to report to the House. But the time was later extended by another week.

The committee made no major changes in the contents of the bills, excepting minor changes in the language and inalso addressed the function. terpretation of law.

SAARC ministers agree to derogate rules of origin under SAPTA

Ideal gift for any occasion.

The SAARC Commerce Minister have agreed to derogate the rules of origin contained in the SAPTA agreement as proposed by Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The ministers attending a conference in Islamabad also decided yesterday to formulate a framework for the derogation within three months, according to a message received in the

Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif opened the twoday SAARC Commerce Ministers' conference earlier in the The meeting decided that the

3rd SAARC commerce ministers' conference will be held in Dhaka in February 1999 as proposed by Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed. According to the present

rules of origin, the SAARC countries are enjoying preferential treatment if the local value addition is 40 per cent of the exporting products. It will be lowered to 25 per cent FOB value after the derogation. Inaugurating the conference.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif

stressed the need for a secure, peaceful and tension-free region for achieving meaningful development of the SAARC countries.

Placing the country paper at the conference, Tofael said South Asia represents more than one fifth of the world's population, but it accounts for only 1.5 per cent of the world's GDP and about 1 per cent of world trade. Within the SAARC, he said,

the position of Bangladesh and three other LDCs is weaker. Tofael said Bangladesh

could only market 1.8 per cent of its exports in SAARC coun tries last year while 4.8 per cent Indian exports and 2.5 per cent of Pakistani exports were marketed in SAARC countries. He urged the larger

economies for further opening up their markets which would also bring greater benefit to the consumers of larger economies. "Unilateral liberalisation would also complement our efforts to open up to world competition and make the region a more attractive destination for foreign investment."

it. The stretch of the lake is

popularly known as the "sewage

could point out the actual size of

the lake. An official claimed

that the detailed area planning

of the area was yet to be com-

pleted while Gulshan residents

alleged that Rajuk was deliber-

ately keeping it secret so that

Chairman Azizul Haq claimed

that no plot was allocated in the

last one year in the Gulshan

Lake area. But he said, in Gul-

shan there were lots of private

lands which did not come under

juk's planning wing requested

customary anonymity and said,

as long as the developers con-

struct buildings in accordance

with the city's Master Plan and

the building code, Rajuk has

Students go on

rampage at

Titumir College

rampage at the Govt Titumin

College, ransacking several

rooms of teachers and damag-

ing a private car yesterday, re-

the college authorities refused

the proposal of its students'

union, dominated by pro-

Awami League Chhatra League,

for illegal admission of some

students ransacked the Eco-

nomics Department and dam-

aged the car of Shaheda Obaid,

chairman of English depart-

ment, at about 11 am. She also

suffered serious injuries during

teachers of the college in an

emergency meeting decided to

boycott classes from today for

Bazlul Huda

From Page

in Thailand and later wanted to

go to Zimbabwe, which was de-

nied by the Thai government as

the extradition case was pend-

Huda earlier sought asylum

an indefinite period.

ing in the court.

Protesting the incident.

Witnesses said the unruly

students into the college.

The students went berserk as

A group of students went on a

Another top official at Ra-

the Rajuk jurisdiction.

nothing to do.

ports UNB.

the attack.

When contacted Rajuk

more plots could be extracted.

None of the Rajuk officials

Gulshan Lake up for grab From Page 1 wide with rows of slums along

litical leaders. Local people pointed at each plot and named their owners and said these plots were handed over within the last one year.

The waterbodies of Gulshan Lake between Road-32 and Road-40 bore demarcation pillars inside it. At a lakeside house at Road-32, a resident requesting anonymity, said that he had got his building plan approved with a clear mention that his house would be the last one before the lake. "But in 1995, a gentleman

came and put a signboard in the lake beside my house which read his name and a Rajuk allotment number," he said. He then went to the then Rajuk Chairman Humayun Khadem who told him that those were illegal plots allocated by Ershad. "Don't worry. These allocations will be cancelled," the Chairman was quoted by the resident as saying "If you look into Rajuk file.

you will find that hundreds of plots have been given out from the Gulshan Lake but Rajuk is taking time to land-fill those and register the plots fearing an outcry," the resident said. From Kamal Ataturk Avenue

to the north-west end of Gulshan area, the lake known as Banani Lake is also fast narrowing down with several buildings situated in the middle of the waterbody. At places the Banani Lake is merely forty feet

CU situation From Page 1

The committee, headed by former president of Chittagong University Teachers' Association Prof Fasiul Alam, comprises the proctor and provosts

of three students' dormitories. Of the six dormitories, Shibir activists still 'control' the F Rahman Hall. Chhatra League activists now 'control the Alaol, Shahjalal and Abdur Rouf Halls while Suhrawardy Hall remained vacant after Tuesday's violent clashes.

Police raided all the halls and Zubra village, adjacent to the campus where most Shibir activists reside, but no arms or ammunition was recovered.

PM: Suggestion From Page 1

tions. All should cooperate to make the society free from ter-Referring to the government

steps to eradicate polio from the country, the Prime Minister said Bangladesh is committed to eradicate polio by the year 2000. Massive programmes have been taken to achieve the objective. She thanked the VOA fan

club and VOA Bangla service for their campaign against polio besides their regular programmes. "VOA's programmes for eradication of polio is really praiseworthy," she said. Participating in the discussion. US Ambassador John C

Minister's proposal to ban political activities in the campus. Speaking on the occasion, Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury also picked up the topic of campus terrorism and said it is

not a permanent phenomenon,

Holzman mentioned the Prime

rather a temporary one. He said President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed is repeatedly speaking against campus terrorism and also the BNP is against it. When everybody desire the

same thing, then all should

take a decision in this regard to

help the country's economic

progress, Holzman added.

Health Minister Salah Uddin Yusuf, State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed. VOA Bangla service chief lqbal Bahar Chowdhury and VOA Bangla Service Coordinator Syed Asaduzzaman Bachchu

Couple held for torturing maid

By Staff Correspondent

A couple was arrested yesterday for allegedly torturing a 30-year-old maid at their flat at Shamoli under Mohammadpur thana in the city.

Police identified the arrested person as Anwar Hossain, reportedly a retired lieutenant colonel, and his wife, Ayesa Newaz alias Dina. The maid, Nurjahan Begum,

daughter of Wahed Ali of Jamalpur, was under treatment at a city clinic. There were burn injuries in different parts of her body, police said.

Quoting the victim, police said that Dina had beaten Nurjahan with a hot kitchen utensil on April 15. Nurjahan also alleged to police that Dina often beat her since she started working in the house two years back. Nurjahan's condition be-

came critical after the torture on her on April 15. The couple then admitted her to a city clinic on Saturday last, police Police said they came to

know about the incident after the clinic authorities filed a general diary with Mohammadpur thana on Tuesday. The arrested couple are likely to be produced before the

CMM's Court today. Mohammadpur police filed a case on Tuesday night, accusing the couple under the Women and Children Repression Act

Gas explosion From Page 1

making loud noise. Smoke had

engulfed an area of over two square kilometres and there was an unusual smell in the air after the gas leakage, local people said today. The smoke and the smell gradually subsided. they said.

Meanwhile, workers of the Lakkatura and Malnichhara tea gardens yesterday observed work abstention demanding compensation for what they said looting of their houses following the emergency evacuation, the managers of the two tea gardens said

Malnichhara tea garden is located near the gas well.

BNP MPs

From Page 1 of JCD and is trying to drive them out. The opposition MPs alleged

that Chhatra League cadres aided by its hired goons captured four dormitories of the Dhaka University ousting its political opponents as well general students.

They said when JCD mem-

bers were trying to exercise

their democratic rights by bringing out procession police charged baton on them and arrested a good number of their leaders and workers. "The arrested JCD leaders are being tortured by police and

they (police) even keep them under scorching sun violating human rights," the statement said. . The MPs called on the people to join the ongoing movement against the government and

remain alert against its con-

The signatories to the statement included Prof AQM Badrudozza Chowdhury, Saifur Rahman, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Oli Ahmed, Khandaker Delwar Hossain, Dr Khandaker Mosarraf Hossain, KM Obaidur Rahman, Sheikh Razzak Ali, Akbar Hossain, Barrister Nazmul Huda, M Shamsul Islam, Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, MK Anwar, Barrister Zamiruddin Sirker, M Morshed Khan, Shamsul Islam Khan, Mahbubur Rahman, Harun-Al Rashid, Fazlur Rahman Patal and Sadek Hossain Khoka.

We Mourn

We, the students and staff of Sunbeams, express our profound grief and shock at the tragic and untimely death of our beloved Shazneen Tasnim Rahman, who had been a student of the school from Playgroup to Class VII. We pray that Almighty Allah grants her soul eternal peace.

Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May Allah grant them the courage and strength to bear the irreparable loss. D-217

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