



18 prisoners snatched from court premises in Cox's Bazar

COX'S BAZAR, Apr 10: Armed assailants snatched 18 prisoners from the district court custody today, reports UNB.

Police said "seven to eight armed terrorists all on a sudden hurled several cocktails and fired gunshots and took away 18 prisoners from the *hajat* at 2:30 p.m." Four policemen were injured during the incident, police and witnesses said.

With the help of public three of the escapees were recaptured. Bullet-hit Habildar Abul Kalam, Habildar Janu Mia and constable Shahidur Rahman and injured SI Priyadarshi Barua were rushed to Sadar Hospital.

Deputy Commissioner Polin Bihari Dev and Police Super Lutfur Rahman said investigation started and "appropriate measures would be taken against those responsible."

The incident occurred when police were engaged in carrying 64 prisoners from the Sessions Judge's court to the court *hajat*, they said.

GMG's aircraft breaks nose wheel while landing

By Special Correspondent GMG Airlines had to reschedule a number of its flights yesterday as one of its aircraft broke its nose wheel while landing at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) Sunday night.

The aircraft with 37 passengers was on a flight from Chittagong, sources said. The mishap occurred due to hard landing but all the passengers and the crew were safe, they said.

But GMG officials denied that any aircraft of the company broke its nose wheel. They said one of its two De Havilland turboprop aircraft has been grounded due to 'technical problem.'

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Tk 15 lakh looted from Haji Selim's trading house

From Our Correspondent NARAYANGANJ, Apr 10: Robbers looted over Tk 15 lakh from a trading house at Munshikhan in Fatullah in the district today.

Police and witnesses said a gang of masked gunmen stormed Madina Trading Corporation at about 1 p.m. and snatched the money at gunpoint.

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**Our new numbers**  
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April Sun Rises Sun Sets

11 5:40 am 6:19 pm

12 - -

Prayer Timings

April 11

Fajr 5:00 5:30

Zohr 12:45 1:30

Asr 4:45 5:00

Maghrib 6:25 6:28

Esha 8:00 8:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

# The Daily Star

3rd Millennium

Wishing the  
BEST  
for the

CHAITRA 28, 1406 BS

MUHARRAM 5, 1421 HIJRI

16 PAGES PRICE : TAKA 6.00

DHAKA TUESDAY APRIL 11, 2000

## IJO's silent death

By Mustak Hossain

The International Jute Organisation (IJO) no longer exists.

The International Jute Council (IJC), policy making body of the IJO, has failed to adopt a 'Successor Instrument' to give a fresh lease of life to the Dhaka-based world body for promotion of jute and jute products.

The three-day meeting of the IJC that ended in Dhaka yesterday could not adopt the instrument in the face of opposition from all the 15 European Union members.

Earlier, an UNCTAD convened IJO conference in Geneva had adopted a resolution, which stopped short of referring to a 'Successor Agreement' but proposed a 'Successor Instrument' for continuation of the IJO.

As a follow up of the Geneva conference, the IJO met for

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three-days in Dhaka from April 6 to 8. The meeting adopted the Successor Instrument.

The IJO agreement has not been extended and it has gone into liquidation due to lack of support from the EU members for a fresh lease of life to the Dhaka-based world body for promotion of jute and jute products.

The IJO was established under an agreement at the initiative of UNCTAD in 1984. The agreement, later extended till 1989, expires today.

The IJO has become the victim of internal conflict of the EU Commission. Some leading member states of the EU are in sharp disagreement with the Commission over policy matters and its jurisdiction of power," an IJO source said seeking anonymity.

The member states are un-

recovered the firearms, the sources said.

Senior KMP officials who worked 'tirelessly' for detecting his murders, collecting *alamats* (evidences), building case dockets and equipping the judiciary with all necessary particulars for his trial are now taking no interest in recovery of the illegal firearms, they observed.

Confusion still remains about the exact number of firearms Shikdar had in his possession before his arrest on August 11 last year. A high official of KMP had said last year that there were sixty firearms in his possession. But police reportedly demanded 200 firearms from him as one of the preconditions for his surrender, the sources said.

The illegal firearms are now possessed by some of Shikdar's beneficiaries in the ruling party who were named by his accomplices Nasir Khan and Jamai Faruk in their confessional statements to police earlier, the sources said. But police are tight-lipped about the statements.

The KMP officials concerned had promptly acted on the confessions of Noor-e-Alam and detected the murders committed by Shikdar. But they are mysteriously showing no interest in

recovering the firearms, the sources said.

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