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Zoo employees, army sepoys clash in city

By Staff Correspondent
Several persons were injured in a clash between some employees of Mirpur Zoo and two army sepoys who allegedly tried to enter the zoo without ticket, police and witnesses said.

The injured included the two sepoys.
Captain Rezaul Karim of ASPs went to the zoo with his family at about 9:30 am yesterday, leaving sepoys Abdur Satter and Jahir outside to take care of his vehicle.

After some time, the two sepoys wanted to get inside but the gate men did not allow them as they had no entry pass or ticket.

An exchange of words ensued. At one stage, the two sepoys allegedly punched a Deputy Curator of the zoo, resulting in a brawl.

Employees of the zoo joined their colleagues, caught the two sepoys, assaulted them and took them inside. The two sepoys were tied up and confined in a room.

Being informed, Mirpur police rushed there, rescued the two and later handed them over to army authorities.

Army officers later went to the spot and investigated the incident.

Dr. Shahidullah, Deputy Curator of Mirpur Zoo, filed a case with Mirpur police in this regard.

US, Russia back new Y'slav govt Milosevic's fate unknown: Kostunica new president



The steps leading to the entrance of the Yugoslav Parliament building is filled with people yesterday as thousands of Serbian opposition supporters await the inauguration of Vojislav Kostunica as president of Yugoslavia following Thursday's uprising against Slobodan Milosevic.

BELGRADE, Oct 6: Russia joined the international outpouring of support today for the forces that toppled Slobodan Milosevic, stripping the disgraced regime of its key backer and helping Yugoslavia's new leaders solidify their control, reports AP.

Russia's foreign minister, Igor Ivanov, flew to Belgrade and said he was conveying congratulations from Russian President Vladimir Putin to Vojislav Kostunica, the opposition leader being hailed by Western heads and even Yugoslav state media as the "president-elect."

Russia was the last major European nation to withhold support for Kostunica as the winner of Sept. 24 elections.

Ivanov's statement removes the last possibility of any important international backing for Milosevic, whose 13-year rule unravelled Thursday in a rampage by opponents in Belgrade. Ivanov also planned to meet Milosevic in his hiding place, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported.

"I congratulated Mr. Kostunica on his victory in the presidential elections," said Ivanov.

Kostunica said he accepted

Fariya returns to mother's lap Alleged kidnapper held from Munshiganj

By Staff Correspondent

Police yesterday rescued three-year-old Fariya who was kidnapped from in front of a house at Bara Maghbazar in the city on Wednesday.

The girl was rescued from the house of one of the two alleged abductors, Ali Akbar, at Anar Aldi in Tongbari thana of Munshiganj district at about 5 am yesterday. The other accused, Ali Hossain, was arrested but Akbar was absconding, police said.

A team from Ramna thana in cooperation with Munshiganj police raided Akbar's house and rescued Fariya, daughter of a businessman, Abdul Hannan.

Ali Akbar and Ali Hossain lured the girl away and

took her to an unknown place. The gang then demanded Tk 10 lakh over telephone for her release.

Abdul Hannan offered a lesser amount of ransom but the gang refused to accept it and threatened to kill the girl if their demand was not met, family sources said.

Hannan then contacted the officer-in-charge of Ramna thana, ABM Sultan Ahmed, and filed a case under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000. He gave only the names of the two accused but could not give other details. Both were

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Fariya, 3, who was kidnapped from Bara Maghbazar in the city on Wednesday was rescued from Munshiganj yesterday. Photo shows Fariya in her mother's lap

--Star photo

USTDA, SAARC cumulation system Garments industry at risk as Dhaka not in list of 33

By Staff Correspondent

The garments industry in Bangladesh is at great risk now as the US Trade and Development Act 2000 (USTDA) and the SAARC cumulation system came into effect from October one, speakers at a seminar in the city said yesterday.

Under the USTDA, 72 African and Caribbean countries including 33 developing ones will get entry into the US market without tariff and quota barrier from

2005. But Bangladesh has not been included in the list of 33 countries, they said.

The seminar on "Bangladesh Garments Industries and Women Workers, a Concern for National Interest", was organised by Karmajibi Nari, an NGO. Trade union leaders in the garments sector, lawyers and NGO representatives spoke at the seminar.

Because of the SAARC

cumulation system, BGMEA will be able to import fabrics from India, which will ultimately affect the industry and the workers.

The seminar also focussed on other issues including WTO embargo on Bangladesh garments, rights and privileges of workers and working condition in garments factories.

The number of garments factories in the country has increased

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Khulna Jubo League leader shot dead

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 6: Kamruzzaman Ripon, 27, one of the accused in Panna Murder Case and a front ranking leader of city Jubo League was gunned down today allegedly by some of his close associates.

The gunmen stormed into his father's Ahsan Ahmed Road residence at about 12-45 pm and opened fired on him from close range. He was rushed to General Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

According to FIR, four young men played 'active role' in Ripon's murder. Ripon was in the list of most wanted criminals of Khulna approved by the Home Ministry. Ripon's elder brother Khalekuzzaman filed an FIR

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Birds again! Kuwait aircraft escapes mishap at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent

A Kuwaiti Airlines Airbus-300 carrier narrowly escaped a mishap after a bird reportedly got inside its engine at Zia International Airport yesterday morning.

The incident disrupted operation of most of the scheduled flights to and from ZIA in the morning.

A ZIA official said that nearly 200 passengers were unhurt when the pilot screamed the aircraft to a halt after sensing presence of a bird in the engine. Six of its wheels were damaged.

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Salahuddin Yusuf passes away

Salahuddin Yusuf, a veteran Awami League leader and minister without portfolio, died at BIRDEM Hospital yesterday morning. He was 68, report agencies.

Yusuf, who was previously

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Specialised textile mills Free quota for all 8 categories allowed

By Rafiq Hasan

The government has allowed free quota to specialised textile mills in all categories, though they do not export garments.

According to sources, each of the 103 specialised textile mills received free quota worth around 5.50 lakh taka and transferred it to the garment exporters in exchange of money.

Earlier, they got free quota allotment in only two categories, 363 and 369-f, which allowed them to produce terry towel. But this year they received quota allotment in all eight categories of garment export.

Officials at the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) said garment export quotas have been allocated to the mills following the directives by the Ministry of Commerce.

One source alleged that the quota allotment was in violation of the quota policy rules because only garment manufacturers and exporters are eligible for quota allotment.

But President of Bangladesh Specialised Textile Mills and Powerloom Industries Association (BSTMPIA) Mohammad Shahzad Miah denied the allegation and said that they received quota allocation

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Aussies in selection dilemma

NAIROBI, Oct 6 (Internet report): The Australians face a selection dilemma ahead of their ICC Knockout quarterfinal against India, here tomorrow.

With the wickets playing quite slowly, logic suggests the inclusion of at least one spinner but, given their opponents dislike for fast bowling, the Aussies are also contemplating going in with an all-pace attack.

While the Indians play spin superbly they are not as comfortable against pace, which clearly is Australia's strength.

In Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee the Aussies have a deadly three-pronged pace attack while equally -- in the absence of Shane Warne, Colin Miller and Stuart MacGill -- Brad Young and Mark Higgs form an inexperienced spin combination.

"It's a tough one," skipper Steve Waugh said.

"We're not sure if we are going to pick the spinners or not."

"You have to consider who are you are playing and that (playing India) obviously comes into it because they are obviously not as good against the quicks when the ball is bouncing."

One player who would appear

certain of selection is all-rounder Andrew Symonds who showed in the thrilling tie with England on Tuesday that he can bowl spin as well as he can bowl his medium pacers.

"Symmo can cover both bases so he is always a chance to get picked in the side," Waugh said.

Further complicating selection

is that several players -- Glenn McGrath, Ian Harvey, Mark Waugh and Michael Bevan -- are carrying niggling injuries. However Waugh is hoping all will be available and a decision is likely to be made after the team's final training session tomorrow.

Meanwhile, India skipper

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19 murdered, only one case tried All the AL men were victims of intra-party feud or enmity

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Oct 6: Nineteen leaders and activists of the ruling party and its front organisations were killed in the city in last twenty months, according to records with Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP).

Of these, only one murder case has been tried. Investigations

into the rest of the murders are yet to be completed.

The murders, committed between January 1 last year and August 31 this year, were due to political rivalry, intra-party feud and previous enmity, KMP sources said.

On January one last year, Jubo

League activist Kachi, 20, was stabbed to death.

Sramik League leaders F M Siraj, 48, and Manik Shaikh were hacked to death in the office of the AO of Peoples' Jute Mill at Khalishpur on January 10.

Jubo League activist

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Exhibition on Diversified Jute Products

A three-day Exhibition on Diversified Jute Products, jointly organised by the Ministry of Jute and Export Promotion Bureau in association with the International Jute Organisation and Delegation of the European Commission, Dhaka, is going to be held on October 7 to 9, 2000. The Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E. Sheikh Hasina has kindly consented to inaugurate the Exhibition at Sheraton Hotel on 7 October 2000. The Exhibition will be held on 8 to 9 October 2000 at IJO premises, 145 Monipuripara, Tejgaon, near Farmgate, Dhaka and will remain open for the public from 9 am to 7 pm on both the days.

More than twenty reputed manufacturers and exporters of diversified jute products from Bangladesh, China, India and Thailand are going to display a wide range of high value added and new technology-based products at the Exhibition. You are all welcome to visit the Exhibition.

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