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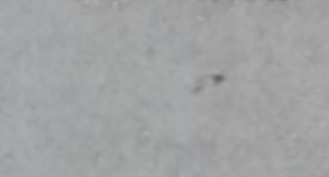
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## Goods worth Tk 35 lakh gutted in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Dec 30: Goods worth about Tk 35 lakh were gutted in eight fire incidents in the port city and Sitakunda in last four days, Fire Brigade sources said here today, reports UNB.

Three shoe stores at Reazuddin Bazar, 30-semi-pucca houses at Nazirpool in Kotwali thana and a house at Tetulia in Sitakunda upazila were gutted on Wednesday.

The Fire Brigade estimated the extent of damage in these fire incidents at about Tk 4 lakh.

On the Eid day (Thursday), valuables worth about Tk 20 lakh of a galvanizing shop, an engineering workshop and two saw-mills were gutted at 12-Quarters in Eidgah area of the city.

Besides, some 20 kutcha houses were burnt at Mogoltuli on the same day causing damage to property worth about Tk 5 lakh.

On Friday, two small fire incidents took place at a petrol pump at Fakirhat in Bandar thana and a house in front of Sholoshahar railway station. The damage was estimated at about Tk 50,000.

Besides, some 30 kutcha and semi-pucca houses were also gutted at Islam colony in Kotwali thana at about 9 am today destroying property worth about Tk 5 lakh.

Most of the fire originated from electric short circuit, Fire Brigade sources said.

## New Year's Day celebrations: Police on alert

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has taken precautionary measures to ward off any possible untoward incidents in the capital during New Year's celebration tonight, reports UNB.

Dhaka University that witnessed a shameful incident on the campus last year, has also taken adequate measures to maintain discipline.

Issuing warning against vandalism, the Vice-Chancellor has asked all the resident students to return to their rooms by 1:00 am Monday.

A senior police official told last night that tough action would be taken against anyone resorting to vandalism or violence on the street.

Additional police force will be deployed in selected places identified as 'danger zone'.

Police officials at a meeting yesterday at police headquarters, took measures to check vandalism. Gulshan and Ramna police have been asked to keep on utmost alert.

In recent years, some unruly youths hurled crackers and homemade bombs at zero hours. See page 11 col 6

## 2 PBCP armed cadres arrested in Khulna

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Dec 30: Pradip Kumar Das, 32, an armed cadre of outlawed PBCP and chief security guard of BNP leader and former MP Abdul Gaffar Biswas was arrested by Khulna police on December 27 from a shop at Ahsan-Ahmed Road here.

Hossain Biswas, 30, another member of the PBCP, was also arrested from the same area.

Hossain is a cousin of Prof Ashrafur Islam Babul, office secretary of Khulna Awami League.

Police said the two outlaws were arrested while demanding toll from the owner of Millennium Hair Dressers at gun point.

Police prayed to CMM's Court today seeking seven days remand for interrogating them.

Both Prof Babul and Gaffar Biswas have been maintaining secret link with the Puro Banglar Communist Party since last two years, police said. Apart from sharing toll, the two leaders also engaged Dipu and Hossain in drug trafficking, police added.

Khulna police also arrested the same day two Jubo League activists and recovered two revolvers from their possession.

The arrested are Abdul Kader, 30, and Kala Shahadat, 28. Kader, leader of 'Kader Bahini' of East Bania Khamar in an accused of Jubo League activist Shahidul murder case and wanted in many criminal cases, Khulna thana OC said.

Police recovered a revolver with two bullets from Kader. Amir, 26, a member of the Kader Bahini was also arrested the same day.

Kala Shahadat, an alleged terrorist and Jubo League activist, was arrested from Custom Chat area while demanding toll from a brickfield owner on December 27.



President Shahabuddin Ahmed, flanked by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad (right) and Dhaka City Mayor Mohammad Hanif (left), offering *munajat* after the Eid-ul-Fitr prayers at the National Eidgah in the city on Thursday.

— Star photo

## Road accidents kill 14 in three districts in 2 days

Fourteen people were killed in separate road accidents in Comilla, Cox's Bazar and Mymensingh in last two days, reports UNB.

Seven people were killed and two others injured in two road mishaps in Chowddagram and Devidwar upazilas of Comilla Friday, witnesses and police said.

They said six people were killed and two injured when a Dhaka-bound microbus from Feni collided with a truck coming from opposite direction at Batiar Gobinda Manikya Dighirpar of Chowddagram upazila on Dhaka-Chittagong highway early in the morning.

The five people died on the spot are: microbus driver Mitu Mia, 25, and passengers Bellal Khokon, 35, Mozammel Huq, 24, and Bilal Mia, 20, of Fulgazi, Laxmipur district.

Another passenger, Mizanur Rahman, 21, succumbed to his injuries at Chowddagram Upazila Health Complex.

Two injured passengers Mohammad Alamgir, 25, and Jahangir, 21 were undergoing treatment in the health complex.

In another mishap, an unidentified man was critically injured when a Comilla-bound bus from Companiganj hit him on Comilla-Brahmanbaria road at about 11 am. He died in Devidwar Upazila Health Complex.

Another report says, five people, including three children, were killed in a fatal road mishap at Leda

on Teknaf-Cox's Bazar road on the Eid day.

Police and hospital sources said the accident took place when the driver of a speeding jeep lost his control over the steering and run over a gathering of children.

The victims were identified as Senlira Begum, 10, Delwara Begum, 8, and Rabiul Alam, 5, and Zahed Hossain, 22, and Rabiul Alam. They all are from Alikha Leda village in Teknaf upazila.

After the mishap, the driver managed to escape along with his vehicle. A case was filed.

BSS adds, two people were killed and 10 injured in a road accident on Friday morning in front of Shambhuganj bus terminal in Mymensingh town.

The dead were identified as Ajit, 35 and Abdur Razzak, 70.

Ajit died on the spot. The injured were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital immediately after the accident, where critically injured Abdur Razzak succumbed to his injuries.

The accident occurred when the driver of a Mymensingh-bound bus from Jaria-Birishiri lost control over his vehicle and hit another bus, bound for Haluaghat, at the terminal. Both the buses were badly damaged and many passengers and pedestrians were injured.

Of the injured five were identified as Abdur Razzak, 70, Nekhor Ali, 50, Insan Ali, 25, Selim, 40 and Amanullah, 60.

A case was lodged with Mymensingh Kotwali police in this connection.

## Most top leaders spend Eid day in their constituencies

By Staff Correspondent

With election politics gaining momentum ahead of the general polls which is less than a year away, the politicians seemed to have been more serious this time around about their traditional practice of exchanging Eid greetings with the electorate.

Most of the top leaders of the leading political parties spent the Eid day at their respective constituencies while others took up meet-the-people programmes marking the Eid.

Both Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Leader of the Opposition in parliament Khaleida Zia celebrated the Eid in the capital, exchanging greetings with dignitaries and a cross section of people.

The prime minister paid a visit to her constituency at Gopalganj on the eve of the Eid, but the opposition leader did not go for any such programme.

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury visited his constituency in Sylhet before spending Eid day in Dhaka.

Dozens of ministers and MPs belonging to the ruling and the opposition parties spent the day at their respective constituencies while others paid such visits the day before or after the occasion.

The purpose of such visit apparently was to get in touch with the voters and local party leaders. Some others arranged meet-the-people programmes on days

before or after the Eid day.

Ministers including Zillur Rahman, Abdur Razzak, Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed, Abdul Jalil, Mohammad Nasim, Noor Uddin Khan and Obaidul Quader spent the Eid Day at their respective constituencies. Other ministers such as Sajada Choudhury, Matia Choudhury, Anwar Hossain Manju and Prof. Abu Sayeed visited their respective constituencies on the eve of the Eid.

Of the top opposition leaders, Prof AQM Badruddoza Choudhury of BNP celebrated the Eid at his constituency while M Salfur Rahman and Abdul

See page 11 col 6

## Four murdered in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, Dec 30: Four people were murdered in different areas of the district on Wednesday and Thursday, police said, reports UNB.

The dead were identified as Abul Kashem Mohammad, 42, Hanif, 32, Mozaffar Rahman Mithu, 28 and Shamsul Alam.

Fish trader Abul Kashem was shot dead by an unidentified gunman at East Gohira in Anwara upazila on Wednesday.

The assailants, intercepted Kashem and tried to snatch money from him while he was going to buy fish from a nearby fish hatchery in the morning.

The snatchers could not take the money as Kashem raised a hue and cry. Failing, the gunman shot him dead on the spot.

On Thursday, police recovered the bullet-hit body of Hanif from Ranirhat in Rangunia upazila.

In the evening, tea-stall owner Shamsul Alam was stabbed to death by a gang of assailants at his stall at Adunagar in Lohagara upazila.

Witnesses said Shamsul Alam and the gang had an altercation over payment as the hoodlums,

after taking tea, tried to leave without paying.

At one stage of altercation the miscreants stabbed him indiscriminately. He died on way to hospital.

Mithu, an employee of a godown of Quadernagar in Rangunia upazila, was also stabbed to death allegedly by a fellow employee at midnight.

Police said he was an employee of the godown owned by BNP leader Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, MP. The reason behind the killing could not be ascertained immediately.

Separate cases were filed.

### Theft at CMCH

From Staff Correspondent  
CHITTAGONG, Dec 30: Miscreants last night entered the medicine store and cashier's room of the Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) by breaking locks of the collapsible gates, police and hospital sources said.

Hospital authorities said they were yet to ascertain the extent of loss or if anything was missing. A probe body headed by a junior consultant has been formed.

এইডস আপনার জীবন, আপনার পরিবার এমন কি পুরো সমাজকে ধ্বংস করে দিতে পারে  
এইডস কী?

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এইডস কেন হয়

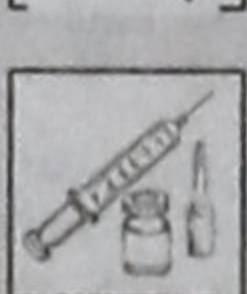
- এইডস রোগের ভাইরাস আছে এমন কারো সাথে দৈহিক মিলনের ফলে



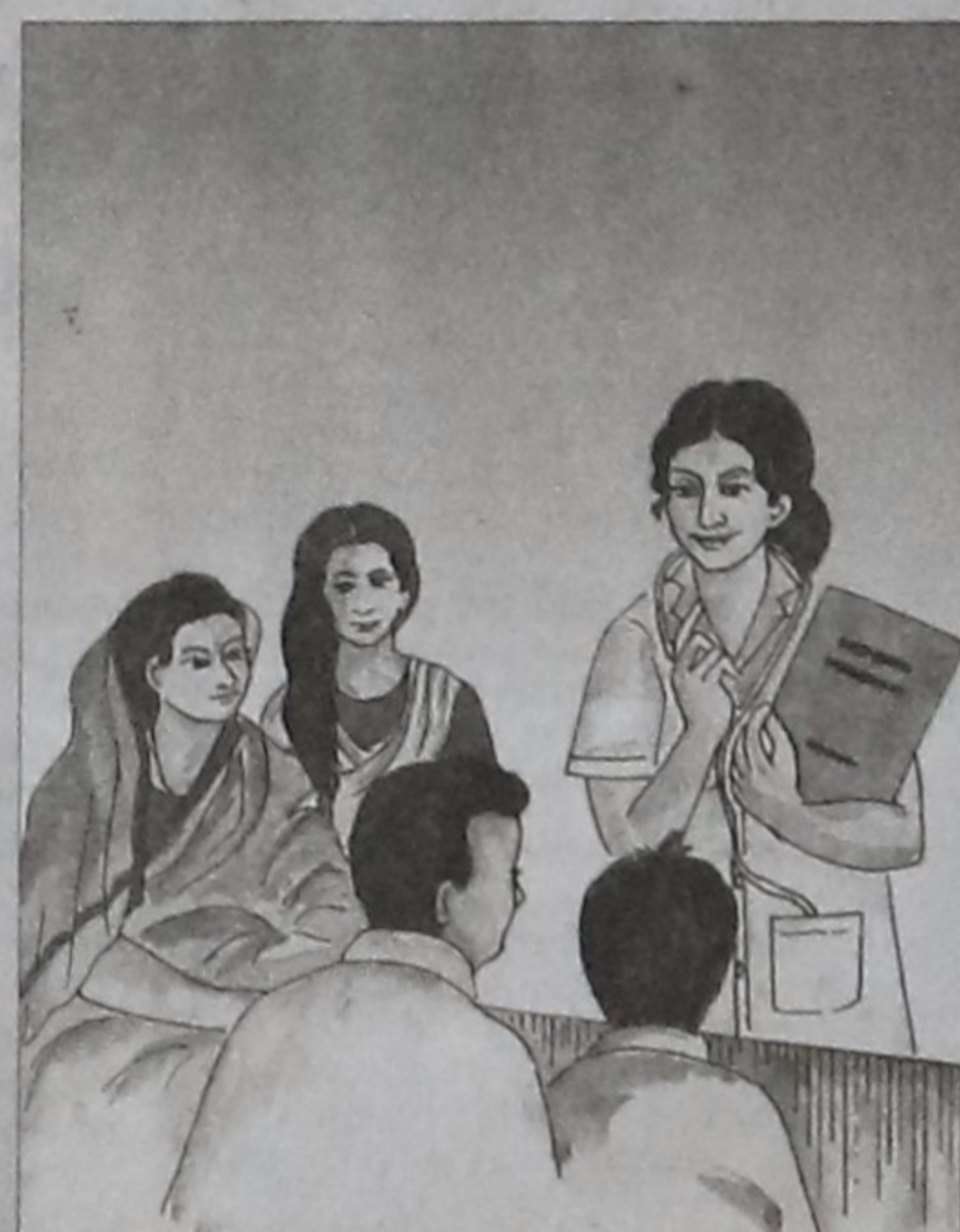
- এইডস রোগের ভাইরাস রয়েছে এমন রক্ত শরীরে গ্রহণ করলে



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