

TO
People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

State minister's firm robbed of Tk 40 lakh in Savar ambush



Cousin Sanwar critically bullet-hit

A doctor checks a critically wounded Sanwar Habib Sinha at the DMCH after robbers shot him at Savar yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a daring daylight heist, robbers ambushed the microbus of Sanwar Habib Sinha, administrative manager of Acme Laboratories, shot him and two others, and snatched around Tk 40 lakh in Savar yesterday. They also took away the licensed revolver of Sanwar, a cousin of State Minister for Health Mizanur Rahman Sinha, one of the owners of Acme.

Critically injured Sanwar, 43, is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with bullet wounds in his chest, abdomen and leg.

Two other staff of Acme who were accompanying Sanwar on a

microbus also received bullets in legs.

Sanwar withdrew Tk 40 lakh from the Dhanmondi branch of the National Bank Limited to pay staff salary and was heading for the factory at Dhamrai.

When the microbus reached Raj Fulbariya at around 1:00pm, a white microbus suddenly overtook it and stopped, blocking the road.

Before anybody could sense anything, a private car stopped just behind the Acme microbus. Four armed men emerged from the car and fired on Sanwar and the other two from pistols through the window.

The robbers then snatched a

PM orders BCS appointments completed by year-end

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday directed the authorities concerned to complete appointments in various BCS cadre services by December 15 on the basis of results of 22nd BCS examination in order to generate more employment.

She also directed the authorities to arrange a special BCS examination to recruit teachers for government colleges and for immediate recruitment of 2,000 nurses to improve health services.

More than 5,000 teachers would be recruited through the planned special BCS exam to fill in vacant posts, sources said.

The prime minister gave the directive while presiding over a meeting at the ICC in the PM's Office Complex to review progress of activities of different ministries and departments.

Khaleda Zia instructed the Planning Commission to facilitate and expedite project approval procedure to finish projects on schedule.

In this regard, she put emphasis

3 to die for killing Humayun Kabir

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

A court in Dhaka yesterday sentenced three people to death for killing an engineer in 1999.

In his sentencing, the judge of the court said Faisal Alam Ansari, his brother Mohammad Saiful Alam Ansari and their hit man Rana Ahmed killed Humayun Kabir in a secluded place in a bid to grab his property.

Faisal, a partner of Humayun's oil business in the US, murdered him at Central Road in Dhanmondi on the night of November 21, 1999 when he went with him (Faisal) to



Humayun Kabir

see a would-be bride. Humayun, who had worked as an engineer in the US since 1981 and married an American, came home to Bangladesh on November 13, 1999.

Judge Mohammad Sirajul Islam of the First Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka handed down the verdict in a crowded courtroom at 12:15pm in a trial that examined 28 prosecution witnesses.

Faisal, who was present at the highly policed court, looked com

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Three customs officials nabbed

Tk 95 lakh tax fraud cases against 14

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three customs officials were arrested yesterday after the Bureau of Anti-corruption (BAC) filed cases against 12 of them and two businessmen for embezzling about Tk 95 lakh in taxes.

The arrested are Sawkat Hossain, deputy commissioner of customs at the National Board of Revenue; Sayeed Ali and Mofazzal Haq, superintendents at the customs house, Dhaka.

The other accused are Masuk Al

Hossain, deputy commissioner of customs; superintendents Meher Ali, Goalm Kibria, MAT Mian and Abdul Halim Sikdar, inspectors Nurul Islam, KG Rafiq, Haripada Sarkar and Parimal Chandra Kundu and businessmen Abu Taher Mian, owner of Meghna Weaving, and Rabindranath Roy, owner of R Chowdhury Enterprise.

The cases filed with the Airport Police Station said the accused businessmen and the officers in connivance with each other embezzled

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8

Judgement in Naushin murder case today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Judgement in the Naushin murder case will be given today.

Judge Hossain Shahid Ahmad of the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka, will pronounce the verdict at 12:30pm, court sources said.

Both the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments on July 21.

Earlier, the court had recorded statements of 20 out of 27 prosecution witnesses in the case.

The court framed charges against the accused on March 27 and the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

70 jungle bandits raid Bhandaria upazila HQ, tame police to loot

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Robbers looted 11 shops at Bandar Bazar, the headquarters of Bhandaria upazila, and got away with valuables worth Tk 1.5 crore in the early hours of yesterday.

The robbery took place in the midst of a joint operation to curb crime in the southwestern region.

Police said the heavily armed robbers coming from the Sundarbans raided 10 jeweller's shops and a variety store.

Police claimed that they could not match the superior firepower of the robbers. Local people, however, alleged that the police response was not adequate.

Five persons including a policeman were injured in the clashes.

Sub-Inspector Shamsul Haq of the Bhandaria Police Station admitted that their wireless set was switched off at the other end, preventing them from contacting police stationed in Pirojpur.

The mob brought out a procession and vandalised three vehicles including that of the additional deputy commissioner (General) of Pirojpur, who came to visit the spot yesterday. Police arrested local political leader Rustam Ali for damage of the vehicles.

Police and local sources said a group of 60 to 70 robbers carrying sophisticated firearms moved along the river Pona in trawlers and landed at Gazipur Kanua bank of the

Bhandaria upazila headquarters just after midnight on July 29.

They walked about two kilometres, split into two groups and surrounded the Bandar Bazar from two sides. The robbers tied seven night guards of the bazaar on the premises of a resthouse.

One group of robbers fired gunshots and blasted bombs to keep the police engaged while the other did the looting. The sounds of gunshots and blasts had drawn the attention of patrol police of three constables led by Assistant SI Zahid. They tried to prevent the looting by firing from their .303 rifles.

Eight more constables from the Bhandaria Police Station joined the patrol police team with four .303 rifles, but could not overpower the looters firing back from sophisticated weapons without any let-up. Police retaliated with only 32 rounds.

The jeweller's shops are Sundari, Matri, Rupa, Bandhua, Priya, Shilpi, Hira, Sananda, Bourani and Newgini. Milton Rakomari Stores is the grocer's shop. After completing the looting the robbers left the place by the same trawlers at about 2:30am.

A police officer, asking not to be named, said they found the spent rifle shells bearing the marks of the Bangladesh Ordnance Factory in and around the marketplace.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 8



City people never know for sure what is in wait for them when they go out after hours of driving rain. A road in Arambagh, flooded by yesterday's rain, gets risky for a woman who needs walking a long way from home every day.

PHOTO: STAR

Massive hunt on for abducted magnate in Fatikchhari

CCCI seeks home ministry help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police have started intensive search in the remote areas of Fatikchhari upazila to rescue Chittagong business magnate Jamal Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury who was abducted on Thursday.

The abduction has triggered resentment and concern specially among the business community.

Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), the apex body of business community in the city, sought personal intervention of the home minister yesterday.

They demanded proper and immediate measures to rescue the kidnapped businessman.

According to police sources, they

were almost sanguine about the criminal's identity and had started raiding all possible hideouts.

A police contingent of about 200 raided four remote areas of Karoilyatila, Kanchon Nagar, Karnaphuli Tea Garden and Khagrachhari border adjoining Rangamati on Monday night.

The drive continued till 4:00am yesterday.

Police sources said, they suspected involvement of top-notch criminals Gittu Nasir, BDR Salim, Habib Khan and the two upazila parishad (UP) chairmen of Fatikchhari and Satkania.

Gittu Nasir and Habib Khan are convicts on the death row.

Police raided the house of a local

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Private firm to manage Ctg int'l airport

UNB, Chittagong

Security, cleaning and maintenance operations at the Chittagong Shah Amanat International Airport will be handed over to private management with a view to earn more profit.

The decision was taken at a ministerial meeting in January, as earning from the airport was not sufficient to repay the loan given by Japan, said an official source.

The decision will come into effect within three months, the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Clarification

The Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) in a clarification yesterday said its attention has been drawn to a news item published in The Daily Star on July 27 titled "Private Universities guilty, but none fulfils criteria".

The IUB in the clarification said

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Constant vigil on city bus terminals soon

105 'criminals' rounded up

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) will deploy permanent forces to five city bus terminals soon to curb extortion and harassment of transport owners, workers and passengers.

The decision came after a two-day crackdown by joint forces rounded up 105 people, including eight listed criminals, in a move to end anarchy at the bus terminals.

The permanent forces, primarily consisting of policemen of different ranks, will be deployed after the ongoing crackdown ends at

Sayedabad, Joy Kall Mondir, Gulistan, Mohakhali and Fulbaria bus terminals, said DMP Commissioner Ashraf Huda yesterday.

The joint forces comprising police, paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles, Rapid Action Team and the Detective Branch of Police arrested 65 alleged extortionists, including five listed criminals on Monday night following a directive from the prime minister.

The forces arrested 40 people, three of them listed criminals, in raids on Sayedabad, Mohakhali, Joy

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Wife of German ambassador passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Marie-Luise Andreas, 59, wife of German Ambassador to Bangladesh Dietrich Andreas, died on July 23 in Bonn, Germany.

She was suffering from throat cancer.

Andreas had come to Dhaka about two years ago with her husband.

She had been away in Berlin for the past few months.

The couple was very popular and well known for their hospitality and enthusiastic interest about Bangladeshi culture.

Andreas developed many close friends among Bangladeshi intellectuals. Along with her husband, she travelled extensively across Bangladesh, particularly to German-funded development projects.

Her friends in Bangladesh have been saddened by her untimely death.

ফ্ল্যাট লাগছে?
নিমেষেই চালা হয়ে উঠুন আপনার
ফিনলে চায়ে চুমুক দিয়ে।
ফিনলে চা-M●●D বদলে যাবে

Finlays