

## '44 people killed in political violence last month'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-four people were killed, 873 injured, 908 arrested and two were abducted in political violence in the country last month, said Odhikar after compiling different media reports.

Thirteen people died in police and jail custody and three of them died allegedly from torture

by law enforcers, said the organisation.

Some 127 incidents of violence against children took place. Thirty children died, 15 injured, 22 raped and 27 abducted in these incidents.

Besides, 12 children were missing, five arrested, eight trafficked while six committed

suicides and two sustained acid injuries.

Three journalists were injured, three assaulted and one arrested. In addition, 37 journalists were threatened and cases were filed against 13.

Twenty women died in dowry-related incidents while seven others were acid-burnt.

The report said 67 women were raped during the last month. Of them, 25 were gang-raped, 14 killed after the rape and one committed suicide after beingraped.

In Chittagong Hill Tracts region, seven people were killed, 10 injured, and 16 abducted during the period.

## US embassy closed today

UNB, Dhaka

The American Embassy offices, including the American Centre, Information Resource Centre, and the student counseling service will remain closed today on the occasion of Ashura.

## 36553 registered graduate docs in country

BSS, Dhaka

The country has 36,553 registered graduate doctors including 12,785 in government employment.

Health Minister Khondoker Mosharraf Hossain told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday in reply to a question from Golam Habib Dulal from Kurigram-4.

In reply to a question Mashiur Rahman Ranga from Rangpur-1, he

said penalising measures were taken against 47 drug manufacturers so far for producing low quality medicines. Of these, punitive measures were taken against 18 manufacturers during the present government.

Mosharraf said per head expenditure in healthcare was Tk 62.08 in the last fiscal. It was Tk 32.09 during 1990-'91, he added.

Replying to a question from MA Hasem from Noakhali-2, he said the

budget allocation in the health sector was Tk 357.85 crore in 1990-'91. The allocation rose to Tk 850.48 crore in the last fiscal.

In reply to a question from Shah Muhammad Ruhul Quddus from Khulna-6, he said 96 types of medicine costing Tk 1.93 crore were purchased for the indoor and outdoor patients of Dhaka Medical College till February 24 of the current fiscal.