

SYLHET CHILD RAPE

## Two accused placed on police remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two alleged rapists of a girl were taken on a two-day police remand yesterday after Sylhet Kotowali police brought them to the magistrate's court.

The two — Ibrahim, a butcher of the city's Mirabazar area, and Salam, a painter in a steel furniture shop in Naiorpul area — were arrested on Tuesday afternoon after a case was filed under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Law.

The court also ordered a medical examination of the victim, daughter of a poor housemaid. She was sent to Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Two other accused, however, could not be arrested, Police said.

The girl, aged about 10 years,

was first raped a week ago by the worker of the furniture shop but the rapist managed to hush up the matter by paying Tk 3,000 to her mother and Tk 2,000 to some "mediators" who brokered the deal, sources said.

Following the incident, the girl was chained up inside her thatched hut in the city's Jatarpur area.

On Monday, the girl somehow broke free after a week's confinement. But she was again raped by the butcher.

Koishore Bangladesh, a non-government organisation (NGO) working for the welfare of distressed and under-privileged children, came to the rescue of a girl after a man took her to the NGO.

The NGO workers took the victim and her mother to the police station and filed a case against four people.



PHOTO: STAR

Police intercept a procession of the Muktijuddha Samannaya Parishad during hartal hours at Noor Hossain Square yesterday. Samannaya Parishad took out the procession in support of hartal.

## Body to probe RMC incident

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The academic council of Rajshahi Medical College yesterday formed a five-member committee to investigate Tuesday's attack on different wards and teachers' rooms by the students.

The academic council formed the probe committee with Vice-Principal Prof. SM Akram Hossain as its chief at an emergency meeting. The committee was asked to submit its report within 72 hours.

On Tuesday afternoon, a group of final year students of the college

vandalised the offices of three teachers of surgery department blaming them for their failure in the examination.

The three teachers are Prof. Khalilur Rahman, chairman of surgery department, Prof. KP Sarkar and Prof. Abdul Hannan.

The students also damaged wards No. 2, 5 and 6 of the hospital during the rampage.

Prof. Khalilur Rahman said 164 examinees sat for the MBBS examination in January 2004 and 18 of them have failed.

## Develop habit of reasoning

Siraj tells students

BSS, Dhaka

Minister for Environment and Forest Shajahan Siraj said taking decision on the basis of logic is the main theme of a democratic polity.

He said there is no scope to do anything by force in a democratic society.

He was addressing the prize distribution ceremony of the First energy ... Buet DC Debate competition in the central auditorium of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) on Tuesday night.

Vice-Chancellor Dr Alee Murtaza, Director of Students' Welfare (DSW) Dr Fazlul Bari, Chief Executive Officer of Energy Pac Ltd, Humayun Rashid and Buet Debating Club (DC) moderator Dr Kabirul Islam spoke at the function.

Siraj called upon students to

keep on practising such events so that they can bring about a remarkable change in the country by their dynamic leadership.

He urged them to develop a habit of reasoning so that they can play a vital role in establishing democracy in a true sense of the term.

Buet Nardasik, Notre Dame College and St Joseph High School became champions in university, college and school level competitions. DU Apar was the runners-up in the university level while Vigarunnesa Noon School and College got runners-up positions both in school and college level.

The competition began on April 1. Forty teams from different universities, and a good number of teams from schools and colleges participated in the debate. Buet Debating Club organised the contest.