

Brutal crime

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three and a half years old girl was allegedly raped by a 16-year-old boy in city's West Bhashantek area last Friday.

The victim was admitted to the One-stop Crisis Centre (OCC) at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital yesterday following a case filed with Kafur Police Station.

Profusely bleeding with scratch marks on her body, she seems to have been violently assaulted, said the gynaecologists at the OCC yesterday. Necessary medical tests were still underway, they added.

Md Iqat of West Bhashantek lured the girl by an ice cream into a silent corner off her house when she was playing with her friends on Friday evening, and allegedly violated her.

On hearing cries of the child, her mother rushed to the spot and found her lying on the ground, bleeding copiously, said family sources.

Iqat is now on the run from the police.

\$1.9b health plan fails in goals

NAIMUL HAQ

The seven-year Health and Population Sector Programme (HPSP) that expired on June 30 last year failed to accomplish most of its goals despite making progress in some fields, a recent evaluation report says.

About one third of the \$1.9 billion programme goals were not achieved mainly due to bureaucratic tangles and mismanagement.

An aid memoire jointly prepared by the World Bank, development partners (DPs) and the government in April this year expressed concern over a number of areas in the health

sector, including decline in the share of public health service delivery and insufficient level of transfer of public health subsidies to the poor.

The aid memoire of the Annual Programme Review Mission for Development Partners' Support assessed the HPSP in terms of achievement of stated development objectives, performance indicators and implementation of reform proposals.

Highlighting the poor performances of the HPSP, the mission said, "Maternal and children protein energy malnutrition in Bangladesh remains amongst the highest in the world".

On the use of contraceptives, it stated, "Between 1997 and 2004, the share of public sources in contraceptive provision declined from 74 percent to 57 percent largely due to the diminishing role of the government's outreach programme. Case detection rate for tuberculosis patients has increased but the cure rate remains far from agreed norms and HPSP targets of 70 percent."

One of the major constraints has been the lack of a Management Information System (MIS) for producing credible statistical, personnel and procurement reporting, the mission said.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Policemen yesterday take Dr Asadullah Al Galib, an accused in the case for blasting bomb at Laxmikhola of Bogra, to court without even cuffing him, much to a disregard for the rule that obliges the accused to be in handcuffs while being produced before a court.

BOMB CASE Hearing against Galib adjourned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A Bogra court yesterday adjourned the hearing of bomb blast case filed against Dr Asadullah Al Galib till June 25.

Additional District and Sessions Judge KG Mostafa passed the order as the District and Sessions Judge SMA Zahurul Islam was absent yesterday. The court also directed the authorities concerned to produce Galib again on June 26.

Galib was taken to Bogra court from Naogaon on Monday amid tight security. The hearing of the bomb blast incident at Laxmikhola

Shah Rowshon Jalal

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

England flay Tiger attack

SPORTS REPORTER

An opening stand of 141 put England on course for a massive total in their day-night game against Bangladesh at Trent Bridge yesterday.

At the drinks break, with 16 overs left, England were 232-3, with Andrew Strauss unbeaten on 88 from 81 balls.

England lost three wickets in eight overs including Marcus Trescothick (81) before Paul Collingwood joined Strauss.

England, who top the table with two wins from two matches, made two changes from the team that beat world champions Australia by three

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



PHOTO: STAR

Luxurious cars now are rare to spot inside the Secretariat after AKM Mosharrar Hossain's resignation over a car scandal.

India to issue maximum visas for Bangladeshis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India is willing to issue maximum number of visas to Bangladeshi nationals as part of efforts to further improve people-to-people contacts with the neighbouring country, Minister of State for External Affairs E Ahamed told Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Hemayatuddin Ahmed yesterday.

During their 20-minute meeting, E Ahamed said India considers Bangladesh an important neighbour -- strategically, politically and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Two BNP cadres killed in 'crossfire'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Two BNP cadres were killed in an 'encounter' between Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and a gang led by the two that also left two Rab men injured at Hajiganj here in the early hours yesterday.

Members of Rab-3 also seized foreign arms and ammunition including a Russian SMG (sub machine gun) and an Italian pistol, liquor and bulletproof jackets from their possession.

The dead are Fayed Mohammad Rifat Ali Biplob, 33, and Alamgir alias Alam, 34.

The injured Rab members are Lt Firoz and Sepoy Asif.

Tipped off that a gang of criminals at a house at Missionpara was preparing to commit crimes, Rab men on Monday night at about 11:00

pm raided the two-storied house owned by Biplob's family, Rab sources said.

Rab men held Biplob and his elder brother Shamim. They made Biplob ask Alam over phone to come to his house, and held him as he turned up.

Rab men recovered one Russian SMG with two magazines and 137 bullets, 12 shotgun cartridges and two magazines of pistols from their possession.

Acting on their statement, Rab personnel raided a house on Bangabandhu Avenue at Chashara and seized one Italian 9mm pistol, a magazine and four bullets, three bulletproof jackets, 216 cans of beer and eight bottles of foreign liquor.

During quizzing, the two admitted to their involvement in extortion, mugging, robbery, arms and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Hasina urges north for more trade concessions

UNB, Dhaka

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina has urged the developed world to grant more trade concessions, adequate aid and debt relief to help the developing countries reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

"Too many developing countries are spending more on debt service than on social services. It is imperative for them to receive trade concessions, adequate aid and debt relief from the developed world if the MDGs are to be achieved," she told a hearing on the MDGs debate organised by Hanns Seidel Foundation in Strasbourg, France, yesterday.

Members of the delegations

from Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, the Philippines, Pakistan and Thailand attended the hearing session. Awami League presidium member Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim MP, International Affairs Secretary Alhaj Syed Abul Hossain MP, Forest and Environment Secretary, Mahmud Hassan and former ambassador Mohammad Ziauddin were present, according to a message received in Dhaka yesterday.

Hasina, the founder president of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), said a large majority of the nations can reach the MDGs only if they get substantial support, advocacy, expertise and resources from

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Rab nabs top criminal, finds arms factory

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday unearthed a criminal group-run arms factory at Rangunia in the district and recovered arms, ammunition and arms making instruments following arrest of the gang linchpin.

Tipped off, Rab-7 of Chittagong arrested Nasir Uddin alias Naisya, 34, along with his associate Md Abdus Salam, 42, from Bangalhalia Bazar under Rajesthali upazila in Rangamati on Monday afternoon.

Naisya was accused in five cases including one for killing an Ansar commander and ran a large syndicate that smuggled timber and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Table with 3 columns: Prayer Timing, June 22, Azan, and Jamaat. Rows include Fair, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib, and Esha with corresponding times.

Source: Islamic Foundation

'Hasina should be quizzed for Aug 21 attack'

Pintu tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling BNP lawmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu yesterday in parliament asked the government to interrogate Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina, alleging

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

European HR meet asks govt to stop extra-judicial killings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A European human rights conference on Bangladesh recently has called on the government to act immediately to stop 'extra judicial

killings and custodial tortures', and bring to book the persons responsible for grenade attacks across the country.

Besides, the resolution of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1